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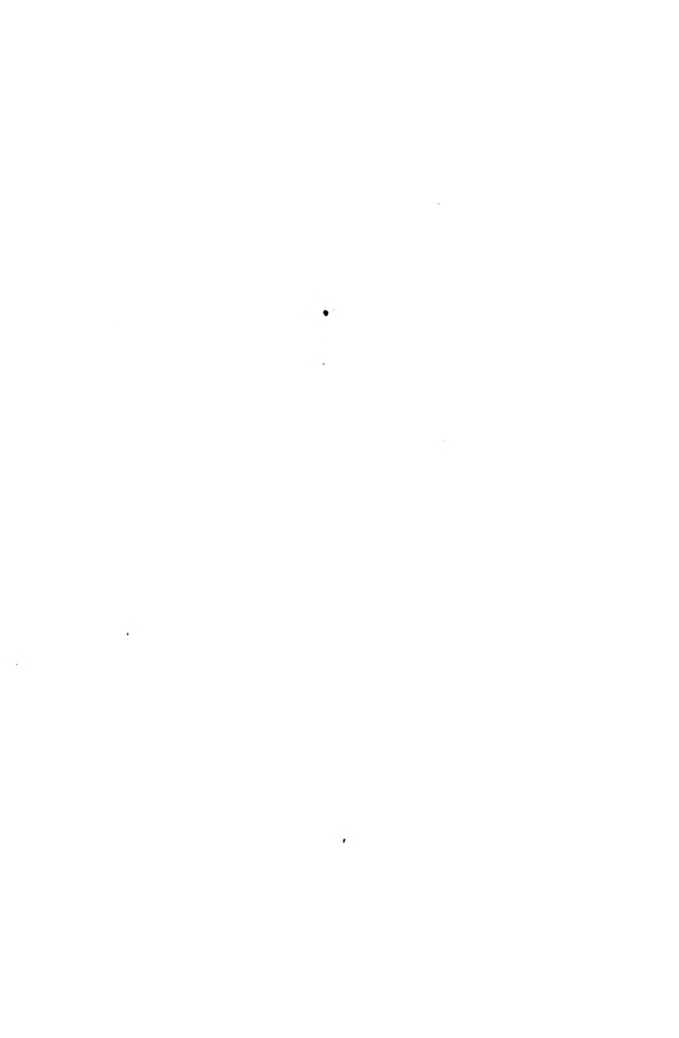
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SARATOGA
AND
LAKE
CHAMPLAIN
IN
HISTORY

M. Cooke



*Saratoga and Lake Cham-
plain in History*

BY

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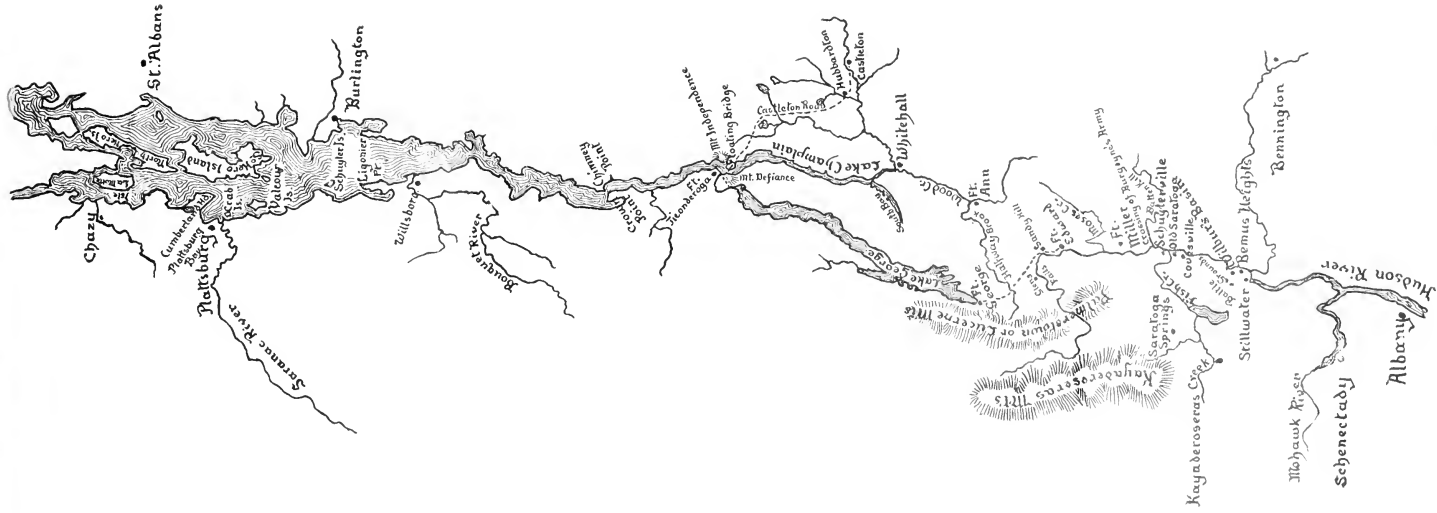
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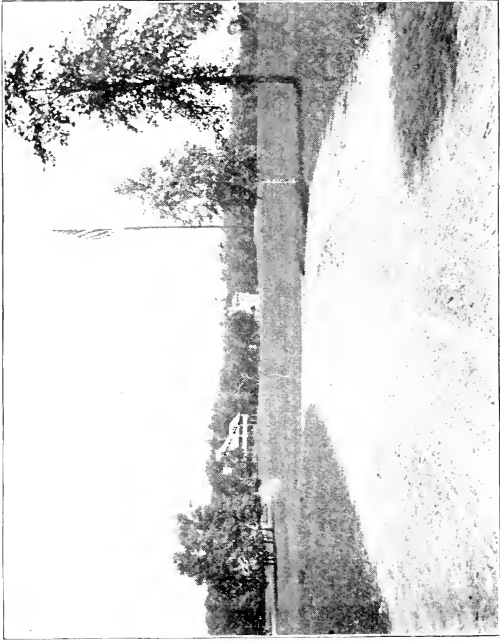
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WOODLAWN PARK, SARATOGA.

Saratoga and Lake Champlain in History.

The story of Saratoga and Lake Champlain is necessarily the same. Lake Champlain and the Upper Hudson occupy one great valley and form a natural pathway between Canada and the United States. At Saratoga and on Lake Champlain, England and France long faced each other in hostile claims for the possession of the continent. At Saratoga more than at any other point the struggle of the Revolution was decided. Invasions from the north aimed at seizing the important military region in the angle of the Hudson and Mohawk, known as Saratoga; expeditions from the south set forth from Saratoga to force a way through the Champlain valley. He who would know the story of one can not but find that of the other interwoven with it.

SARATOGA A NATURAL BATTLEGROUND.

Saratoga, in the widest sense of the name, is a triangle lying at the joining of two vastly important

valleys, those of the Mohawk and the Champlain-Hudson. These watercourses for untold ages formed the sole highways between rival peoples, struggling for the mastery of a continent. By controlling these valleys in times past the Iroquois Indians succeeded in laying a foundation for the only native empire north of Mexico. The French and English succeeded them here in the struggle for the heart of North America, and in these same valleys England and her American colonies strove for the mastery of this vast land. Its location made it almost inevitable that the smiling region of Saratoga should have been the scene of one of the world's few decisive battles.

THE CHAMPLAIN WARPATH.

Though the Mohawk Valley, which bounds Saratoga on the south, has become, since the days of canals and railroads, of great commercial importance, it was in the early times too remote and its navigation too obstructed for the transportation of heavy cannon, hence the larger and more important armies moved through Lake Champlain to and from the Upper Hudson, while more lightly equipped expeditions co-operated with them by the Mohawk Valley. Lake Champlain has been for ages a warpath. Its discoverer, indeed, heard that Indians had formerly lived on some of the islands in this lake, but the wars of the New York Indians, with those of Canada, long made it an unsafe dwelling place, and it was deserted save by savage war parties which stole up and down its waters in their canoes on errands of surprise and massacre, often to

return laden with the spoils of war and with trembling captives. This native warfare was succeeded by the invasions of the French and Revolutionary wars, in which Indian warriors still played an important part. Gayly dressed and finely-drilled European troops mustered here year after year until finally, with the close of the last war with England, this great warpath of the nations was left solely to trade and to the tourist, who still finds the route to Canada to lie through the Champlain Valley, or seeks its shores for pleasure and recreation.

THE MAKING OF SARATOGA.

Saratoga lies at the extreme southern end of the great Adirondack plateau, which is part of the Laurentian mountain system, the oldest on our continent, the first to rise above the ocean in remote ages. Before the time of the glacier the Upper Hudson traversed this region in a different direction, taking its course southward between Mt. McGregor and the Kayaderoseras range of the Adirondack Mountains. When the ice melted the deposits of the glacial waters, loaded with sand and gravel, filled up this ancient channel of the Hudson and sent it winding and struggling through the Luzerne or Palmerstown mountains, and across the rocks at Glens Falls, Sandy Hill and Fort Edward. In these rocks the river has gradually cut a gorge, its falls having receded in the course of ages from Fort Edward to Glens Falls. The Upper Hudson was before the glacial age a tributary to the main stream which took its way through the Mohawk

Valley, laden with the outlet waters of several of the great lakes.

The hills of Saratoga are the work of the glacier, being deposited by the overflow of glacial waters on their way to the Hudson, like the bars in a river. This region was exposed to the sun and clothed in green long before the glacier had retreated from the flanks of the Green Mountains and the Adirondacks on either hand. Lying at the very edge of the Adirondack plateau, Saratoga's celebrated springs well up through a fault, or fissure, between the old Laurentian rock and that of a later formation.

GEOLOGY OF THE CHAMPLAIN VALLEY.

The Champlain Valley, together with the St. Lawrence, is thought once to have sunk below the sea level, causing an influx of ocean waters and a deposit of sea shells in this region. It was also once connected both with the Hudson and the St. Lawrence rivers, thus making an island of what is now New England. It still forms one valley with that of the Hudson, one of its tributaries, Halfway Brook, rising almost on the banks of the latter stream.

SARATOGA A HUNTING GROUND.

Saratoga county was long a hunting ground of the Mohawk Indians. The mineral springs, now so famous, were then the resort of animals craving their salt taste, and among this concourse of wild creatures the Indian hunter was sure to find abundant game. The Indians also had some notion of the value of these mineral waters, and used them in cases of illness.



THE DISCOVERY OF LAKE CHAMPLAIN.

Champlain, like other explorers of his day, sought in the waters of North America for a western passage to the rich countries of Eastern Asia. He was attracted by rumors of a great body of water, with free passage into the St. Lawrence, to seek the lake which bears his name, in the company of an Algonquin war party, bound on an irruption into the Mohawk country by way of the Champlain Valley. The Indians had assured him of free water passage the whole way, and he was greatly disappointed to find rapids in the Richelieu River, but left his sailing craft behind him and, accompanied by only two French soldiers, made his voyage of discovery the remainder of the way in Indian canoes. He first saw the waters of Lake Champlain in July, 1609, and admired their extent and beauty. He was alive to all the curiosities of this region, and did not fail to note the peculiarities of the large fish known as the muskalonge. It was only the chance encounter of his Indian companions with an Iroquois war party, on its way through the great thoroughfare to Canada, that prevented Champlain from being the discoverer as well of the Upper Hudson and Saratoga regions several weeks before Hudson ascended the river which bears his name.

FIRST BATTLE ON LAKE CHAMPLAIN.

It was the twenty-ninth of July, 1609, when the Indians in the Mohawk and Algonquin canoes descried each other. Fearful warwhoops arose on either hand. The Mohawks took to the shore and raised a barricade; the Canadian Indians lashed

their canoes together, and danced and yelled defiance the livelong night upon the water. When day broke Champ'ain and his two French followers lay low in the canoes, covered with deerskins, while their Indian allies paddled ashore. The Mohawks sallied from their shelter to meet their enemies, some of them clad in an armor of twigs interwoven with deerthongs. The two French soldiers were hastily hidden in the bushes on one side of the battle ground. At the beginning of the affray Champlain marched out from between the parted ranks of his Indian allies, a startling apparition to the Mohawks, and discharged his musket, loaded for the occasion with four balls. Two Mohawks fell; the third was wounded. For a short time the arrows fell thick and fast upon both sides, but a discharge of fire arms from the two ambushed French soldiers so terrified the Mohawks that they broke and fled. There was the usual pursuit, the capture of prisoners, and the midnight torture of a victim, whose miseries Champlain finally ended with a musket ball.

FATHER JOGUES AND SARATOGA LAKE.

Probably the first European to set foot on Saratoga soil was Father Jogues, the Jesuit missionary, who, as a tortured captive, passed through Lake Champlain, Lake George, and so southward through Saratoga county to the Mohawk in 1642. After a painful winter of captivity in Mohawk cabins he was taken by the Indian family with which he lived to a small body of water, believed to be Saratoga Lake, for the fishing. Here, in the famished

springtime, when the winter's store of corn had been exhausted, he and his captors lived, when better food failed, on the entrails of the last day's fish, or on frogs, both alike disgusting to the good father.

FIRST PURCHASERS OF SARATOGA.

The first white owners of a part of Saratoga were some Dutch merchants, of Albany, prominent among whom was Peter Schuyler, beloved by the Indians under the name of Quider. These men in 1684 bought six miles wide on either side of the Hudson, from Mechanicville to the neighborhood of Fort Miller. This patent did not include the springs, for the earliest settlers only valued such lands as lay along the streams and lakes, then the sole highways. The tract of land which contained the springs was afterwards, under the name of Kayaderoseras patent, long a bone of contention between the Mohawks and New Yorkers, some of the the latter having bought it in 1708, and the former claiming that they had never meant to sell their great hunting ground, but only a farm upon it. It did not become the undisputed property of white men until 1768.

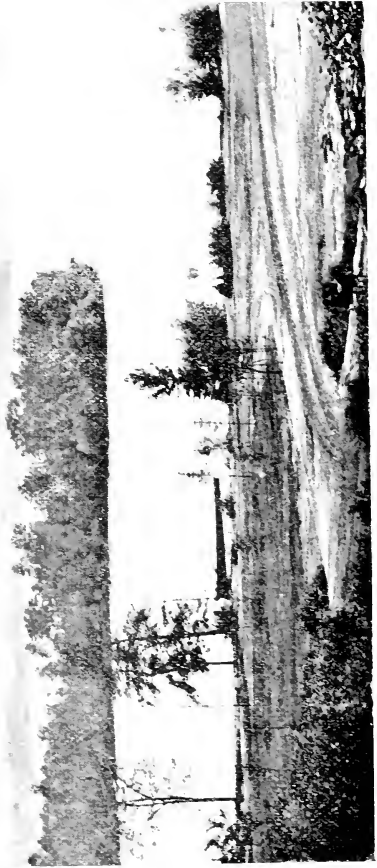
FIRST INVASION.

For many years New York lay bare and exposed to invasion from the great warpath of the Champlain Valley to the northward. Given over to trade and commerce by her natural advantages, the colony neglected defense or trusted to the Mohawks, who were long embroiled with Canada by reason of the French alliance with the Algonquin Indians to de-

fend them. In 1689, during the first of the four French wars which desolated this northern frontier, the Champlain Valley was chosen by Louis XIV, in faraway France, for a descent upon the Hudson, which, with the aid of two French vessels of war in New York harbor, was to reduce the colony to French rule. The vessels failed to reach American shores in season, and the scheme fell through, but the next year in midwinter a party of over two hundred French and Indians, armed against the cold with blanket coats and mittens, traveling on snow shoes and dragging their provisions on Indian toboggans, traversed the ice on Lake Champlain and Lake George, and, descending the Hudson, made a pathway of the frozen surfaces of Saratoga Lake and Fish Creek, the Mourning Kill and Ballston Lake on their way to the midnight surprise of the frontier village of Schenectady. The massacre which followed aroused the tardy New Yorkers to a sense of their danger and alarmed the New England colonies, whose sole western defense was the attenuated line of New York towns on the Hudson. The danger arising from the accessibility of the Hudson from the Champlain Valley caused the earliest combination of some of the American colonies, and was the occasion of the meeting of the first of Congresses in New York the following spring.

SARATOGA AN OUTPOST.

There was a ford in the Hudson between the mouths of Fish Creek on the western and of the Batten Kill on the eastern bank of the stream. From time immemorial this had been the crossing



SARATOGA LAKE.

place of the river for Indians, and it became that of white men. Here a blockhouse was built in the spring of 1690 at what afterwards became the village of Saratoga and is now Schuylerville. This outpost of civilization was garrisoned by a few Dutch soldiers, commanded by Peter Schuyler. The first of a great number of military expeditions destined to set forth from this post crossed the river at the Saratoga ford the same summer, toiling up the Hudson partly in canoes, partly on foot along the river bank. At what is now Fort Miller the canoes were carried around falls in the river. At Fort Edward, known then as the Great Carrying Place, the small army left the Hudson and took its way some twelve miles through magnificent forests of white pine to Fort Anne. Save for a raid on the part of Major John Schuyler and a few men upon the Canadian village of La Prairie the expedition proved a failure and got no farther than Fort Anne.

The next year Major Peter Schuyler, who cut an important figure in the early history of New York, set forth from the little outpost of Saratoga with two hundred and sixty white men and Indians. He descended Lake Champlain to the attack of La Prairie, not far from Montreal, where, after coming off victorious in a short fight, he cut down the green corn in the fields. On retreating through the woods to his canoes on the Richelieu, he fell into a French and Indian ambuscade, but charged the enemy with great spirit, drove them from cover, fought his way through their midst, and then turned about to drive them back that he might

retreat in safety up the Richelieu and Lake Champlain and down the Hudson to Saratoga. This was one of the most plucky struggles of the northern warpath, and savored little of Indian methods of warfare, as well it might, the Indian allies of both French and English having retreated at the outset of the contest.

INDIAN BATTLE NEAR SARATOGA SPRINGS.

Two years later, 1693, Frontenac, the governor of Canada, retaliated upon New York in a way felt by the colony, which depended much upon Indian allies, by striking a blow at the Mohawks. A party of six hundred French and Indians traversed Lake Champlain, and, avoiding the Saratoga ford by crossing the Hudson above Glens Falls, pushed through what is now Wilton and Greenfield to strike a blow at the Mohawk allies of the English colonies. Peter Schuyler followed fast on the heels of the invaders, when they retreated from their work of destruction. He overtook them near an old Indian pass over the Palmerstown Mountains, in Wilton, and gave them battle almost within sight of Saratoga Springs. The French and Indians made their escape after the battle by crossing the Hudson on a cake of ice that chanced to be wedged in a bend of the river.

THE HAMLET OF SARATOGA.

During the fourteen years of peace that followed a little Dutch hamlet grew up near the block house fort at the Saratoga ford, this farthest outpost of the New York wilderness. Here Albany merchants built houses, and resorted at certain seasons of the

year for trade, catching the Indian hunter as he returned from his hunt in the territory around Saratoga Springs, and gaining something in being on the ground to bid first for his furs, an object much sought in those days. During this time a lively smuggling trade was carried on between Albany and Canada by way of Saratoga and the Champlain Valley. It was not until 1709 that New Yorkers ceased filling their pockets and were drawn into the second French war. Again an expedition set forth against Canada by the great northern warpath under command of Colonel Nicholson. A stockaded fort was now built on the east side of the river opposite the little hamlet of Saratoga and called Fort Saratoga. This fort was connected with Lake Champlain by a chain of temporary posts at the carrying places—one at Fort Miller, another at Fort Edward, and a third at Fort Anne. Having reached the latter spot the expedition, like the former one, advanced no further, but spent the summer in waiting for the arrival at Boston of an English fleet which was to co-operate with it against Canada by attacking Quebec, but which had in fact been ordered elsewhere and never came.

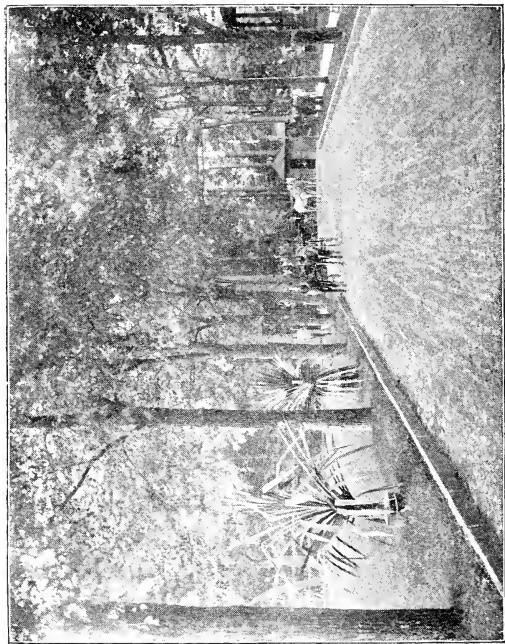
FIRST MEETING OF FRENCH AND ENGLISH ON LAKE CHAMPLAIN.

The French had meantime sent fifteen hundred men up Lake Champlain to take the English at Fort Anne by surprise, but they succeeded only in surprising themselves, for they fell in with some English scouts, their Indians were fired upon from an ambush, the savages themselves took some of

their French Canadian allies in the woods for the enemy and fired upon them, and the commander of the expedition lost himself from his army for a time. After this chapter of accidents the French retreated, believing that they had come in contact with the English advance guard. This first blundering meeting of English and French soldiers in the Champlain Valley took place a little south of Crown Point, then known to the French as *Pointe à la Chevelure*, or Scalp Point.

SARATOGA OPPOSED TO CROWN POINT.

Thirty-one years of peace followed the second French war. The village of Saratoga grew and the French seized Lake Champlain. New York claimed the western shore of this valuable waterway, and New Hampshire and Massachusetts squabbled over its eastern border. "While they quarreled for the bone," in the words of an old writer, "the French ran away with it." Choosing Crown Point, where the lake contracts to the width of a river, they built a fort which they called St. Frederic, with walls twenty feet thick and high and an octagonal tower of black limestone, the whole being surmounted with twenty-six cannon and several mortars. To oppose this really formidable fortress New York had only a weak stockaded fort at the Saratoga ford, manned with thirteen men and officers. This little garrison which sheltered itself with difficulty, and its ammunition scarcely at all beneath its leaky barrack roof, would yet have perished with drought for lack of a well had Saratoga been besieged. New York governors rated their assemblies on the needs



PRIVATE ROAD AND PARK GATE

of Fort Saratoga, but the representatives engaged in a long struggle with the royal power, destined to culminate in the Revolution, would grant nothing for military defenses, fearing to put power into the governor's hands, and thus it happened that the stockades and roofs of Fort Saratoga were left to rot.

THE MASSACRE OF SARATOGA.

Such was the defenceless state of the sole northern outpost of New York, when in 1744 the war of the Austrian succession in Europe threw the new world into a fresh struggle. Governor Clinton urged the New York assembly to build forts at the carrying places and fords on the Hudson, and when the assembly refused unless he accepted its conditions and even neglected to repair the falling stockades of Fort Saratoga, he angrily withdrew the feeble garrison of this forlorn hope of a fort.

In November, 1745, five hundred Canadians and Indians ascended Lake Champlain, marched to Fort Edward, where a trader named Lydius then lived, and, having imprisoned his servants that no warning might reach the devoted village of Saratoga, the marauders descended the Hudson, capturing by the way a man and his wife with a wagon load of flour. The woman tried to turn the invaders aside, assuring them that there were two hundred men in Fort Saratoga awaiting them with resolution, but they probably had better information for they proceeded and on the morning of November fifteenth fell upon the little village. They made prisoners of those who surrendered peacefully, but killed all who resisted or ran, as men working in the field naturally

did. The Philip Schuyler of that day, who lived in a large brick house pierced with loopholes, answered a Canadian officer who knew him and promised him good treatment in case of surrender, with the words: "You are a dog and I will kill you." Whereupon he was shot. Thirty people were killed, sixty were carried away to captivity, houses and mills, barns full of wheat and corn, and stables full of animals as well as the fort and the houses of Albany merchants, who resorted here at certain seasons of the year for trade with the Indians, all were burned to the ground.

A NEW FORT AT SARATOGA.

The massacre of Saratoga aroused the people of New York, and the next year a new and larger fort was built on the Saratoga side of the river in the angle of the Hudson and Fish Creek. This post was named Fort Clinton in honor of the governor of that name.

The third French war beat severely upon the exposed region of Saratoga and below. Twenty-seven scalping and marauding parties are said to have fallen upon this region, let loose by the ambitious struggles of European monarchs over the control of a crown. New York could in fact no longer rely on the Mohawk Indians for keeping the enemy at bay, the rage of these Indians against the French, which dated from Champlain's battle with them, having nearly subsided. It was to little purpose that the new Indian agent of the Mohawk, William Johnson, urged these people to "go a scalping."

In 1747 a body of French and Indians made an attempt upon the new fort at Saratoga, approaching it stealthily and concealing their main force in hopes of surprising the garrison. A few scouts were sent to decoy the garrison out of the fort, and lay in hiding until two Englishmen came out. The Indians then fired upon them, and when attacked made off as though they were wounded. A hundred and twenty of the garrison at once sallied from the fort and went in pursuit. They soon fell into an ambuscade of French and Indians, who at once opened fire upon them. The English resisted stoutly, aided by the guns of the fort, but the invaders rushed upon them tomahawk in hand. Some escaped to the fort, though so closely pursued as to be scarcely able to close the gates upon their pursuers; others ran down the hill to the river, where they were either drowned or tomahawked. This affair occurred where at a later day Burgoyne's army laid down its arms. The following fall the fort at Saratoga was abandoned for lack of supplies and burned to the ground. No disastrous results followed for peace was soon after declared.

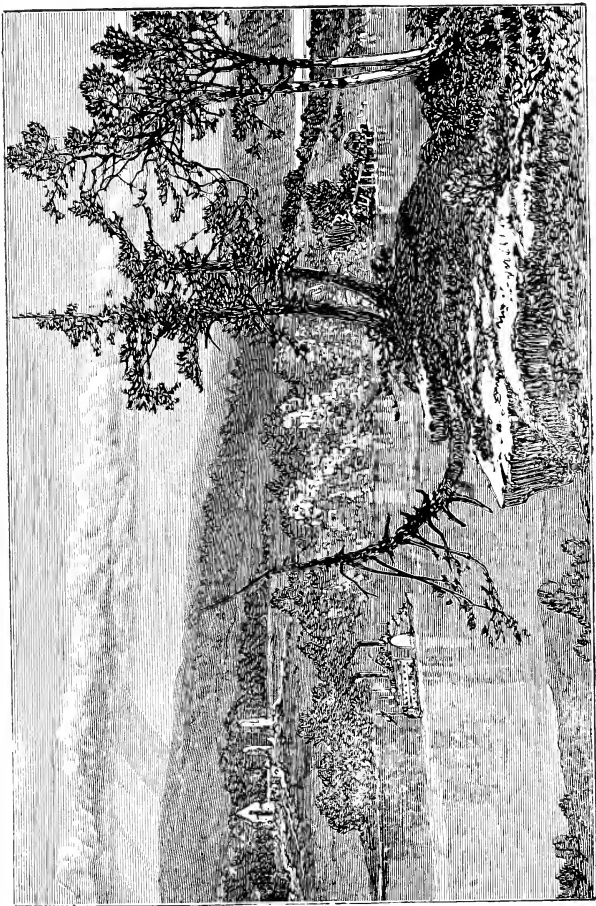
SARATOGA IN THE LAST FRENCH WAR.

But six years passed before war again broke out. This time America embroiled Europe in her own quarrels, the French in America having made a well organized effort to secure the heart of the continent by the seizure of important military points on the main watercourses, their claim to inland territory reaching eastward almost to the important Saratoga triangle. Again did Saratoga

become a point of importance, and again did a new fort arise on the ruins of the old, now named Fort Hardy in honor of the ruling governor. Here the army of General Johnson, the Indian agent and trader, halted on its way northward to the attack of Crown Point. Past this spot ran a new military road cut through the forests from Albany to Lake George by the advancing army, and here the numerous military expeditions of this war crossed the Hudson. Fort Edward, or Fort Lyman as it was at first called, came into existence at this time, and with its building Saratoga ceased to be an outpost and became one of a chain of posts succoring and sheltering the great armies which marched up and down the Hudson year after year in the last French war, co-operating with others that took their way through the Mohawk Valley southward of the Saratoga triangle to the defense of Oswego and the capture of Niagara.

A FORT AT TICONDEROGA.

The English colonies in the summer of 1775 advanced their front of former wars from Saratoga to Lake George; the French pushed forward from Crown Point to Ticonderoga. The English thought to beleaguer Crown Point; the French planned to thrust the English back from Fort Edward. Neither expedition reached its destination, but both met at the head of Lake George, where a battle was fought in which the French were routed. After the battle of Lake George the French built a Fort at Ticonderoga, which they named Carillon, because of the musical sound of falling waters in the outlet stream of Lake George.



Ruins of Ticonderoga.

In the summer of 1757 a brilliant army of ten thousand French, Canadians, and Indians, in command of Montcalm, ascended Lake Champlain and made a rendezvous of Ticonderoga, where the savages distinguished themselves by eating an Englishman, captured in a skirmish on Lake George. This army ascended Lake George to the siege and capture of Fort William Henry. The fall of this post and the massacre which followed so terrified the country below that Montcalm might have taken Fort Edward, and perhaps have been able to threaten Albany from Saratoga had he not lacked the means for transporting cannon and supplies to the Hudson.

THE FIRST EUROPEAN AT SARATOGA SPRINGS.

It was after Ticonderoga became the advanced French post that an event happened, which is one of the many that link the history of Saratoga and Lake Champlain into one continuous story. A French officer lay ill in Fort Ticonderoga. An Indian, one of those Mohawks, no doubt, who had been induced to desert their former home to live in Canada under the name of Cagnawagas, told the sick man of the wonderful healing powers of a certain spring, and guided him, it is believed, to the High Rock spring of Saratoga to use its waters.

THE BATTLE OF TICONDEROGA.

In 1758, the great Minister Pitt having come into power in England, the English took the offensive again in the Hudson-Champlain Valley, and an army of sixteen thousand men crossed the Hudson

at Saratoga on the way to an attack upon Ticonderoga. This force was nominally commanded by Abercromby, but the real leader was Lord Howe, a gifted young officer, who for this frontier warfare cut short the men's hair and coat tails, and browned their polished gun barrels. He abolished camp beds and camp followers, sleeping himself upon a bear skin, washing his own linen, and by way of example he asked his officers to a dinner of pork and beans eaten from a common dish with pocket knives and forks. Under such a leader everything progressed rapidly, and by the sixth of July the army, after making the passage of Lake George, landed near the Baldwin of our day. The opposing French army lay within the loop made by the outlet stream between Lake George and Ticonderoga. Across this loop ran the only road, but the French had destroyed the bridges by which it crossed the stream, and an attempt was made to march the English army through the woods around the loop of the stream toward the fort and so to get into the rear of the French army. The English, however, became confused in the woods, and the vanguard of American rangers, with Lord Howe at their head, fell in unexpectedly with an advanced party of the French army which had been engaged in watching the English landing and was now making its way back to the fort through the valley of Trout Brook. Near where this brook enters the outlet stream an encounter took place between the colonist rangers of the English army and the French, in which Lord Howe fell at the first volley. A panic seized

the English. Always at a loss in the forests of America, regiments threw themselves one on another, and General Abercromby was near being dragged off in the confusion. But other bodies of Americans in the English army, more used to woods warfare than the English, came to the aid of the advance guard, and the French, caught between two forces, at first fought savagely and at length broke and fled to be either shot or drowned in the outlet stream. Of three hundred and fifty only fifty escaped. The English loss was even greater, for though but ten were killed, Lord Howe, the life of the expedition, was among their number.

General Abercromby had had quite enough of the woods, and after spending a night of indecision near the scene of the recent struggle returned to the Lake George landing place, resolved to march in future by roads. This delay gave Montcalm time to retire from his camp within the loop of the stream to the rocky plateau in the rear of the fort which he began hastily to fortify with a rude barricade of logs, bags of earth and sods, outside of which he caused trees to be felled with their branches outward, thus forming a huge abbatis. The French wished only for time in which to complete their defense, and this Abercromby by his halting and slow movements gave them. Montcalm had but four thousand men, and feared being cut off from Crown Point by a movement in his rear. Abercromby, on the other hand, believed Montcalm to be much stronger than he was, feared he would be reinforced, and proposed to take the fort by assault rather than by a

regular siege, before which it must have fallen.

On the eight of July, 1758, the English moved to the attack in three columns, and the French dropped their shovels and axes and took up their arms. The English pressed on until they reached the abbatis, where they became fearfully entangled. Some were impaled on sharpened branches, and all who approached to within fifteen paces of the French line were killed. They fell back declaring that the French position could not be taken at the point of the bayonet. Abercromby, who was himself well in the rear, ordered a fresh charge. On came the English again under the terrible fire of the French, of whom they could see nothing but their caps above the barricade. They combined to attack the right, the center and the left. To each point Montcalm, in his shirt sleeves, for it was midsummer weather, hurried with reinforcements. The French cheered their general and their king and fought furiously. While the battle raged in front an attempt was made on the part of a force of men in twenty batteaux to get by water into the French rear, but some well directed cannon shot from the fort sank two of the boats and forced the others to retire.

Six times in six hours the English struggled up against a murderous fire to fling themselves in vain against the hopeless tangle of the French abbatis. At five o'clock a determined assault was made upon the right of the French position, the English hewing their way to the foot of the breastworks. Twenty-five officers of the Highland regiment fell in this

assault, dying Scotchmen calling to their comrades "not to lose a thought upon them but to mind the honor of their country." At six o'clock the English made their last charge and fell back for the last time, the rangers and other bodies of American troops keeping up a distant firing for some time longer to cover the retreat and the removal of the wounded.

Among the wounded Highland officers was a Major Campbell, of Inverawe, who, as tradition goes, had been warned by the ghost of a cousin, whose murderer he had unwittingly sheltered, of his death at a place then to him unknown, named Ticonderoga. He is said to have gone into the battle with many misgivings. His wound was in the arm, and he died at Fort Edward more as it seems to the modern mind of the careless surgery of the day than by ghostly appointment. During the battle some Englishmen were near entering the French works, supposing the enemy had surrendered, for the reason that a Frenchman, as a vent to his excitement, had waived a handkerchief tied to his gun. The French took the English in their turn for men who had capitulated as they ran forward holding their guns above their heads and calling "quarter." They were about to receive them into the works when a French officer convinced his men of their mistake, and a volley was fired in the face of the approaching English, who were disgusted with what they took for a bit of French deceit. One plucky Rhode Island man contrived to get under the very edge of the French breastworks, where he

killed several Frenchmen, and when at length they discovered him and wounded him gravely by firing down upon him he sprang up and brained with his hatchet a Frenchman on the other side of the barricade. An English officer who saw this action sent men to bring him off, and two weeks later he was recovering of his wounds and able to curse the French stoutly.

The English losses in the battle of Ticonderoga amounted to nineteen hundred men, six hundred of whom were killed outright, the largest loss in one battle that has ever occurred in this northern war-path of the nations. The French losses were three hundred and seventy-seven, not counting those who had perished in the skirmish of two days before. Never had human life been wasted to less purpose. Abercromby had still abundant men and all the cannon for a regular siege, but he was no leader. The men were fearfully disheartened by the horrors of the recent battle, and to the astonishment of the French the whole army, the largest which ever visited this region, was soon in full retreat up Lake George, leaving behind much baggage and provisions, together with a number of shoes sticking fast in the mud of a marsh through which the army hastened.

The battle of Ticonderoga was called by the French, who claimed Lake Champlain for French territory, a descent into Canada, and there was great exultation over Montcalm's victory. The English on the other hand were deeply mortified at Abercromby's defeat, and this general was after-

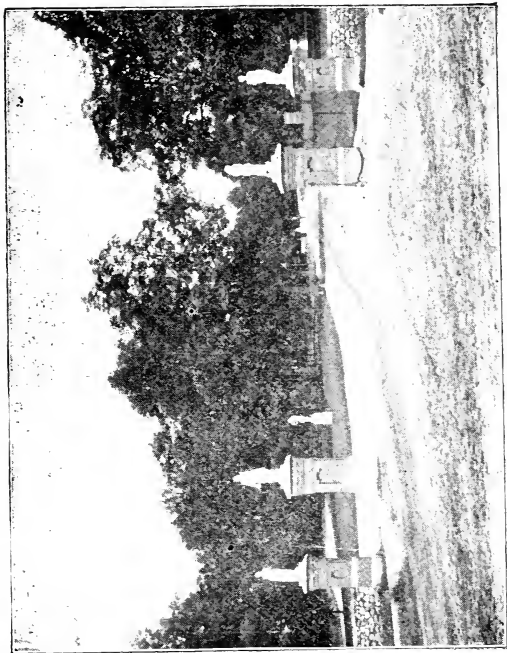
ward known to his own men as "Mrs. Nabby-cromby."

THE FALL OF TICONDEROGA.

Under the vigorous management of Pitt, the English had pushed the French back at all other points except on Lake Champlain, and the danger to the interior of Canada was now so great that Montcalm had soon to consider the possibility of being forced to abandon Ticonderoga. The following year, 1759, when Wolfe appeared before Quebec, General Amherst advanced against Ticonderoga with an army of eleven thousand men. This post was now in command of a French officer named Burlamaque and defended by almost as many men as had the year before defeated Abercromby, but Burlamaque had orders, after making a show of resistance, to abandon the fort and retreat through Lake Champlain to the Richelieu, there to defend Montreal. To deceive the English he busily strengthened his defenses until Amherst's army approached, when he withdrew within the fort. The barricade which the English had stormed in vain the year before, though now more strongly built of logs and earth, was not defended by the French, and Amherst's army encamped under its edge for shelter from the cannon of the fort. The first night after the English arrived Burlamaque secretly retired from Ticonderoga, with most of his army, leaving an officer named Hebecourt with four hundred men to keep up a show of resistance and detain the English before Ticonderoga as long as possible. For four days Hebecourt kept up a

heavy cannonade upon the besieging army, and when Amherst's batteries were erected and about to open fire upon the walls of Ticonderoga the garrison suddenly withdrew under cover of the night. At ten o'clock that night three deserters came to the English camp with news that the French were making off in boats and had left a slow match burning in their powder magazine. It was in vain for Amherst to offer a high reward in gold to the man of them who would lead the way to cut the match, such a feat being beyond the courage of a deserter, and an hour later there was a tremendous explosion which destroyed, however, only one bastion and the barracks of the fort. While there was still danger of a further explosion an English sergeant risked his life to haul down the French flag that English colors might float a few hours sooner over the walls of Ticonderoga.

The retreating French garrison repaired to Crown Point, and spent three days there, after which they blew up the fort and retired to the Richelieu River, the entrance to which was protected by a French squadron, consisting of a schooner and three smaller craft, then sailing these waters. Amherst advanced to Crown Point. He was expected to push on into Canada to the aid of Wolfe, but he was stopped at this point by the necessity for a squadron to oppose to that of the French. The captured French saw mill at Ticonderoga was set to sawing timbers and boards for vessels, but it often broke down under the unwonted stress of work, and the remainder of the summer was more than spent in the labor of build-



IN MODERN SARATOGA.

ing a brigantine, a floating battery and a sloop. Amherst, who was famous for fort building and scattered works of defense wherever he went, occupied the time in erecting a fine stone fort at Crown Point at a cost of fifty thousand dollars, besides which he cut a road across the present state of Vermont from Lake Champlain to the Connecticut River, widened the road from Crown Point to Ticonderoga and explored Otter Creek.

TO THE FINAL CONQUEST.

It was the eleventh of October, and about a month after the capture of Quebec, when Amherst's army at length advanced in the rear of the hastily built fleet to the attack upon Montreal, by way of the Richelieu River. The floating army was struck by a squall and forced into Ligonier, or Willsborough Bay, where it remained for four days, while a terrific north wind blew and torrents of rain fell. A frost and south wind which followed were speedily succeeded by a second blast from the north, and Amherst gave over the undertaking in discouragement and returned to Crown Point and the more congenial occupation of fort building.

In the next August, 1760, General Haviland advanced through Lake Champlain with three thousand men to aid in a combined attack upon Montreal and the remnant of Canada which still held out. Haviland laid siege to the French post on Isle-aux-Nois in the Richelieu. The English, with the aid of the famous scout Rogers, ran aground or captured the small French squadron in this river, and the French abandoned the island and retired to

Montreal, followed by Haviland, who combined with other English forces, ascending the St. Lawrence from Quebec and descending it from Oswego, in an attack on Montreal, which, being unable to resist cannon, speedily surrendered.

THE DISCOVERY OF SARATOGA SPRINGS.

Sir William Johnson, the gentleman, trader, Indian agent, soldier, colonial official and baronet, who lived on the Mohawk with a family of half-breed children in a mansion, swarmed over by his Indian friends, had received a wound at the battle of Lake George, from which the ball had not been removed and from which he often suffered. In 1767 he had an illness from this cause, and his Mohawk neighbors told him of the value of a certain medicinal spring which they themselves visited in like case. Johnson resolved to try its waters, and taking Indian guides with him he traveled by water to Schenectady, and was carried from this point through the woods on a litter to Ballston Lake, where a pioneer Irishman had built his solitary log cabin. From this point the party followed an Indian trail which ran for some distance along the shore of Saratoga Lake to High Rock Spring. His Indian guides built a bark cabin near the spring, and here Sir William spent four days drinking of and bathing in the water. At the end of this time the wilderness baronet was so far recovered as to be able to walk part of the way to his boat at Schenectady. Sir William Johnson may be said to have been the discoverer of Saratoga Springs, as the French officer's knowledge of them was lost to all

but Johnson, who heard of his visit through the Indians. The baronet trader recommended these waters to others and caused them to be analyzed.

FIRST SETTLERS AT SARATOGA SPRINGS.

The pioneer of Saratoga Springs was one Dirk Schouten, a Dutchman, who, in 1773, came from the Hudson River to the eastern shore of Saratoga Lake, which he crossed in a canoe and ascended the Kayaderoseras Creek two miles, and then followed an Indian trail to High Rock Spring. He made a clearing and began building a log cabin on high ground somewhat west of the spring. There was then an encampment of Indians near the spring, and having quarreled with these people Dirk was driven from the region before his cabin had been finished. The next summer came John Arnold with a family of small children to enlarge and live in the Schouten cabin. The fame of the spring had spread, and the first hardy visitors began to find their way in to drink the water, getting what accommodations they could at the Arnold cabin, and frequently sleeping in hammocks swung from trees for fear of the rattlesnakes which then abounded in the rocky ledges near at hand. Wolves howled at night and bears and deer drank from the brook. After two years Arnold, with the restlessness of a frontiersman, moved away, and a man named Norton succeeded to his vacant log cabin. He in turn was driven away by the approach of Burgoyne's invading army, which set all the inhabitants of this region flying like leaves before a storm.

ETHAN ALLEN AND TICONDEROGA.

During the fifteen years' interval between the last French war and that of the Revolution settlers began to be scattered more or less sparsely through the valleys of the Upper Hudson and Lake Champlain. Along the whole extent of the latter body of water were some twenty families, and at Skenesborough, now Whitehall, Major Philip Skene, an English officer of the French war, had planted a settlement of soldiers, built mills, a stone house and barracks. He owned vast quantities of land in this region, and looked forward to the government of the then disputed territory of Vermont. It was thought that this soldier settlement at the southern end of the Champlain Valley would prove a barrier against invasion. No one imagined that the next formidable inroad would be that of an English and not a French army, and that the founder of Skenesborough was destined to play the part of an invader rather than that of a defender. During these years of peace Crown Point, which was mostly destroyed by an explosion in 1773, boasted a garrison of twelve while Ticonderoga had one of forty-eight men, commanded by a certain Captain Delaplace. The gate of the latter fort stood open and a farmer's boy named Nathan Beman often crossed from the eastern shore of the lake to play on the parade ground with the children of the soldiers.

With the outbreak of the war of the Revolution these slumbering northern posts became suddenly of vast importance. Soon after the battle of Lexington a volunteer party composed mostly of Green

Mountain boys, commanded by Ethan Allen, and without any particular authority hastened to the surprise of Ticonderoga. After a forced march these two hundred and thirty men reached in the night the eastern shore of Lake Champlain, opposite the fort. Here the boy Nathan Beman lived, and securing him as a guide Ethan Allen crossed the water with eighty-three men, all that he could crowd at one time into the boats at hand. The dawn of May tenth, 1775, was at hand, and all depended on a surprise. Without waiting for the return of the boats with the rest of his men Ethan Allen marched to the gate of the fort. The sentinel snapped his gun at the invaders, but from long disuse it failed to go off, and he hastily retreated to the interior of the fort and took refuge under a bomb proof. The Green Mountain boys followed fast on his heels, and Allen was soon forming his men on the parade grounds, facing the barracks on either hand. Three huzzas were given to wake the sleeping garrison. Then, hitting with his sword a sentinel who made a pass at and slightly wounded one of his officers, Allen forced him to lead the way up a flight of steps to the second story of a barrack where the commandant slept. The Green Mountain leader thundered at the captain's door. Delaplace made haste to appear, breeches in hand. Allen called for the instant delivery of the fort. Delaplace asked by what authority he commanded it.

“In the name of the Great Jehovah and the Continental Congress,” said the Green Mountain leader, who, it has been said, had about as much

respect for one authority as the English officer had for the other.

The surrender was speedily accomplished, and when the remainder of the Green Mountain boys had arrived from the other shore they "tossed around the flowing bowl," as they expressed it, with much exultation. The spoils were more than one hundred and twenty cannon, besides ammunition and provisions. The guns were carried on sleighs the next winter to Boston, where they enabled Washington to drive the enemy out of that town.

The capture of Ticonderoga was followed by that of Crown Point, which fell without a blow at the summons of Seth Warner, who appeared before it with a detachment of Green Mountain boys on the following day. To secure command of the lake it was, however, necessary to reduce the English fleet, which in these waters consisted of one sloop of war. The enterprise fell to the part of Benedict Arnold, who, much to his chagrin, had joined the expedition too late to command at the fall of Ticonderoga, and who now came to the front as the only man of the party who knew anything of the management of vessels. Skenesborough, or Whitehall, had meanwhile fallen into the hands of the invaders, Skene being absent in England. Arnold manned and armed the schooner which had belonged to Skene and set off down the lake with a brisk south wind. He took the garrison of twelve men at St. Johns by surprise, and taking possession of the English vessel was soon on his way back up the lake with a favor-

ing north wind. This was another occasion for tossing around the flowing bowl.

THE INVASION OF CANADA.

The easy conquest of Lake Champlain suggested the advisability of securing Canada to prevent the English government from using it as a base of supplies for an attack upon the northern colonies. An army once more passed through Saratoga in 1775 and gathered upon Lake Champlain, this time an ill-equipped crowd of venturesome Americans, so undisciplined as to confound freedom with personal independence of command. The illness of General Schuyler left the command to Montgomery, who, failing for lack of heavy cannon to make a break in the walls of St. Johns, now strongly garrisoned by the English, succeeded nevertheless in passing it and capturing Fort Chambly above, and was soon in possession of Montreal. Montgomery marched to the midwinter siege of Quebec, where he fell, and spring found the ill-disciplined little American army in lack of everything and likely to be driven from Canada by the arrival of a force from England.

FRANKLIN AT SARATOGA.

Benjamin Franklin, Samuel Chase and Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, were appointed commissioners to go to Canada and inquire into the state of the American army there. They ascended the Hudson in a sloop to Albany, where they were entertained by Schuyler, his wife and his two "lively black-eyed daughters, Betsey and Peggy." The Schuyler family accompanied the gentlemen to their country home at the river-side village of Saratoga in the

only vehicle of the day in this region a springless farm wagon. The roads were very bad, and Franklin, who was over seventy years old and suffering from an attack of the gout, was so fatigued by the ride as to have in jest bidden his friends a last farewell in the letters which he wrote in Saratoga.

FRANKLIN A VOYAGER ON LAKE CHAMPLAIN.

A week's rest at Saratoga enabled Franklin to pursue his journey to Lake George, where the commissioners embarked in a flat-bottomed batteau with a blanket hoisted for a sail. This primitive craft was drawn across to Lake Champlain by oxen. The party landed for meals at some island or point to boil tea, and so with a favoring wind the batteau made its leisurely way through the great northern lake. Having reached Canada the commissioners found the case of the American army a hopeless one, and advising its retreat returned through Lake Champlain in the blanket rigged boat.

FIRST NAVAL STRUGGLE ON LAKE CHAMPLAIN.

In the summer of 1776 the American army of invasion accordingly retreated through Lake Champlain, first to Crown Point, then to Ticonderoga. Arnold, who was one of its officers, caused the frame of a schooner building at St. Johns to be carried away piecemeal, and when this vessel was finished and added to the others already on Lake Champlain the Americans possessed a small squadron with which to protect themselves from the advance of the English. The enemy at once set seven hundred men at work to build a three-masted ship, which was put together in twenty-eight days

and armed with sixteen guns. To the ship were added, two schooners, a thunderer, or flat-bottomed vessel, mounted with heavy guns, and a number of gunboats armed with one cannon each. These vessels were manned with seven hundred experienced seamen from English vessels of war. To oppose this fleet the Americans had only the new schooner, two sloops, three galleys, and a smaller number of gunboats, manned with unskilled landsmen.

While the English fleet was building Arnold had had the lake to himself, and advanced at one time to the neighborhood of Rouses Point. When at length the English approached he anchored across the narrow channel between Valcour's Island and the western shore. In the early morning of October eleventh, 1776, the English vessels passed Cumberland Head. The English squadron was commanded by Captain Pringle in the *Inflexible*. The American schooner *Royal Savage* was caught outside of the American line in the broad lake and was chased by the English ship *Carleton*. In tacking to get back into line the American vessel ran aground, and her men were forced to abandon her and seek safety on Valcour's Island. The English fleet had now rounded the southern point of this island and lay between Arnold and retreat. The English gunboats drew together in a cluster to fire on the escaping crew of the *Royal Savage*. Four American vessels which had meanwhile got under way to defend the grounded schooner fired with a good deal of effect into the cluster of English gunboats, which

were then ordered to form in line across the channel between Valcour's Island and the shore and give battle. Only one of the English vessels was able to get into the narrow channel to take part in the combat, and here she at once became such a target for Arnold's guns that after about an hour's fighting she was towed out, leaving the gunboats to continue the battle alone. Arnold fought savagely, pointing nearly all the cannon on board the Congress himself for want of an experienced gunner. In the struggle this little vessel was hulled twelve times and received seven shots between wind and water, her main mast was cut to pieces and many of her crew were killed. An American galley, named the Washington, was also badly shattered; one gunboat was sunk, and another lost all of her officers but the captain. The English lost but one gunboat and twenty men, these small craft being difficult to aim at with precision. About five o'clock the English drew off and anchored in a line south of the American fleet with the intention of completing its destruction on the following day.

Arnold saw that his position was a hopeless one, the English being greatly superior to him in skill and in the size and number of their cannon. The English gunboats which at first lay in a line between the larger vessels were allowed to retire for shelter to a bay near at hand. The night was cloudy, and Arnold cautiously got under way and sailed his vessels one by one through the enemy's line without discovery. This was a masterly feat, and greatly surprised the English, who awoke the next morning

to find their prey escaped. They at once gave chase. Unfortunately the Americans were obliged to stop for half a day at Schuyler's Island to mend sails and stop leaks. A headwind detained both squadrons, the gunboats being unable to sail to windward, but on the morning of October thirteenth the English hove in sight of the Americans. By noon Arnold's ships lay in a narrow part of the lake where they were retarded by a south wind while the English in more open water got a breeze from the northeast which brought them within range. The *Inflexible*, the *Maria* and the *Carleton* opened fire on the American galleys, *Congress* and *Washington*, which, together with some gunboats, brought up the rear of the retreating American vessels. A few close broadsides compelled the *Washington* to strike, and Arnold in the disabled *Congress* was left to defend the rear of his squadron. Three ships armed with forty-four cannon poured their fire into the devoted little vessel, but Arnold contrived to hold out for four hours. At the end of that time, when the *Congress* was almost a total wreck and he was surrounded by seven sail of the enemy, he ran her and four gunboats aground in a small creek on the eastern shore about ten miles above Crown Point, set them all on fire and ordered his men to wade out into the water and defend the burning vessels with musketry against boarding parties in small boats. When they had burned to the water's edge he retreated through the woods to Ticonderoga.

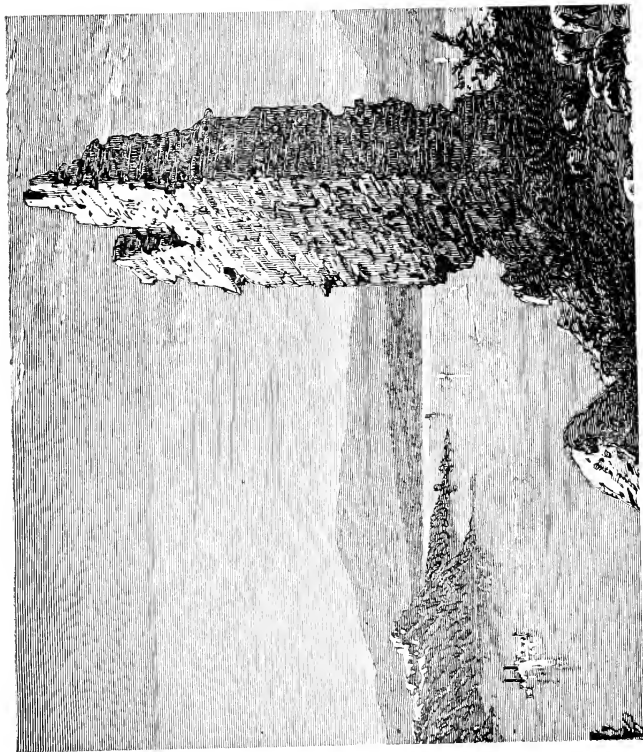
By this gallant struggle Arnold saved six sail of the American fleet, preserved Ticonderoga from at-

tack for that year and very much raised the reputation of the Americans for resolution.

**PLAN FOR THE DEFENCE OF SARATOGA FROM
THE WEST AND NORTH.**

It was inevitable that England should choose the Champlain and Mohawk valleys for an attack upon the rear and center of the American colonies and that her course should be directed from the north and west toward the Saratoga triangle there to make a junction of the two forces for the descent of the Hudson and the co-operation with an ascending force. Elsewhere she could operate only from the coast, here she might hope to cut the rebellious provinces in two, capture their main inland thoroughfare, the Hudson, cut off New England and leave her exposed to be reduced from the rear.

In the winter of 1776 General Burgoyne was seen walking in Hyde Park with the king of England. Burgoyne was a fashionable gentleman who had in early life made a runaway match with the daughter of a noble family and received rich promotions in consequence; he was also a dashing soldier and had a ready though florid pen with which he afterward wrote some successful plays. He had served under Sir Guy Carleton the preceding year in Canada and having seen the Americans flee at the approach of the English troops thought but little of their courage and is said to have boasted that he could march through all of the American colonies with five thousand men. It was agreed in England between the king and the minister, Germaine, that Burgoyne should have the chief command of an army which



Looking south from Ticonderoga.

was to descend the Champlain valley and that of the upper Hudson to Saratoga where it was to be joined by an invading force under a partisan leader, St. Leger, after which it was to move upon Albany while General Howe sailed up the Hudson from New York to a junction with Burgoyne which was to insure the destruction of American independence.

BURGOYNE'S ARMY.

Burgoyne's well-appointed army amounted to between eight and ten thousand men and was composed of English and German regular troops, Canadian militia, Indians, and the beginnings of some royal American regiments to be filled up in northern New York by loyalist colonists who it was thought would leave off their timorous ways and join the English standard when put in heart by the appearance of a conquering army. Burgoyne was provided with an extensive park of artillery, for Americans had already shown great skill in throwing up breastworks with the utmost rapidity and it had been found that they were disposed to fight from behind them most abominably well.

The lesson that Lord Howe had taught of light equipment for an inland expedition had been forgotten. Officers were encumbered with baggage, the army was followed by nearly three hundred women, trains of beef cattle were never wanting and the general's table during the whole campaign did not lack the wines and other delicacies needed for gay nightly feasts. Some young gentlemen are even said to have carried fishing tackle, intent, like true Englishmen, on the sports of a new country.

Never had an army a more brilliant array of officers. There were lords, baronets and viscounts, a German baron, members of the House of Commons, sons of great families who afterward succeeded to titles, and no less than thirty young men who became in the future, either generals or admirals. So many foreigners of distinction were never bent upon visiting the Lake Champlain and Saratoga region in a body.

BURGOYNE ON LAKE CHAMPLAIN.

It was the latter part of June, 1777, that Burgoyne's brilliant army made the voyage up Lake Champlain, advancing from seventeen to twenty miles in a day and camping at night both on the western and eastern shores. It was ideal summer weather and the lake was placidly beautiful. Though floating, the army's order of advance was as perfect as on land. The Indians in birch bark canoes, containing from twenty to thirty each, led the van, then came the advanced corps and gunboats in regular line, followed by the vessels Royal George and Inflexible, towing booms, next the brigs and sloops of the English squadron, the generals and their suites occupying pinnaces, and after them the second and the German battalions, the rear being brought up by camp followers of all sorts. The main army encamped at Cumberland Head and at the Bouquet River. The men caught salmon in the streams and at one place killed enough, of the immense flocks of wild pigeons which then flew at certain seasons through the Champlain Valley, to feed all of the ten thousand people who in some capacity or other

accompanied the army. One young officer sketched the mountain view at Isle LaMotte and all was like a grand pleasure excursion.

At the Bouquet River or Willsborough, Burgoyne treated the Indians to a war feast and held a council in which he lectured them to his own satisfaction on humanity in warfare. On the thirtieth of June the army reached Crown Point and encamped both here and at Chimney Point opposite, the vessels of war lying between. Here Burgoyne issued a high-sounding address to the inhabitants of the country he was about to overrun, reproaching them for their disloyalty and threatening them with the Indians. He also gave out at this place his famous general orders in which he made the astonishing announcement:

“This army must not retreat.”

It was the first day of July when the English proceeded to the siege of Ticonderoga, boats and vessels literally covering the water in this narrow portion of the lake. Bands were playing, drums beating, flags flying and spirits were high. The destination of the army beyond Ticonderoga was a secret to all except the commanding officers but there was a shrewd suspicion afloat that Christmas dinners were to be eaten in Albany.

ST. CLAIR'S RETREAT.

An American army about four thousand in number and commanded by General St. Clair lay at Ticonderoga. Upon this army the young nation depended solely for defense from the north. The old French position at Ticonderoga had a false repu-

tation for strength due to the stubborn resistance made here by Montcalm during the last French war. The forts of that war were in fact out of date, and it was soon to be found that they were all commanded by higher ground within range of the more powerful cannon now to be brought against them. This, however, was not as yet suspected and a stubborn resistance was expected from the garrison of Ticonderoga in case of an invasion.

The old French fort itself was easily liable to be invested and cut off in case of a siege and it was too small and crowded with barracks to accommodate the American army in case it were driven from its outer works and forced to take refuge within the walls of the fort. Because of these disadvantages Mount Independence on the other side of the narrow strip of water at this point had been fortified and a floating bridge was built between the two posts which was defended on the north by a boom of logs attached together with iron chains and on the south by a few vessels of the American squadron. Ticonderoga had neither sufficient men to defend well its extensive outworks nor were the latter entirely finished. St. Clair meant, however, in case of a siege to make a stand at Ticonderoga as long as possible and then to retreat to Mount Independence where he would be in connection with the eastern shore and a possibility of retreat as a last resort.

The descent of Burgoyne's army was a surprise to the garrison of Ticonderoga as it was to the country generally. St. Clair had been led to believe that most of the forces in Canada had been drawn away

for a seaboard attack on the United States and that little more than a feint would this year be made in the Champlain Valley. Even when American scouts spied from a distance English ships of war anchored at Split Rock and later at Crown Point, the invading force was not believed to be large. From the time the English army reached Crown Point the Indians so infested the woods in their hunt for scalps that scouting to any purpose became impossible and it was not until Burgoyne had well-nigh drawn his net around Ticonderoga that St. Clair learned from a prisoner the great strength of the army that had come against him.

On the first of July English gunboats were seen off Three-Mile point and there was a skirmish between the Indians and an American scouting party. The next day General Fraser with the advance guard of the English army took possession of some high ground, formerly an entrenched camp which commanded a part of the American lines outside of the fort and was consequently named Mount Hope. An American guard in a block house at the Lake George landing repulsed an attack from the enemy about the same time but as a block house could not make a stand against cannon St. Clair withdrew its garrison which retired after setting fire to the block house and the Ticonderoga sawmills. Burgoyne sent men to cut off the retreat of these men but without success.

These movements cut off the communication between Lake George and Ticonderoga. On the following day the German forces under General Riedesel extended their camp on the eastern shore of Lake Champlain to the neighborhood of Mount In-

dependence and began cutting a road to the narrow neck of land which connected this post with the main land. When the enemy should have occupied this neck, the Americans would be left only one avenue of retreat, that through the southern arm of Lake Champlain toward Whitehall. This last resort was soon to be threatened for while the English army, in spite of a lively cannonade from the fort, proceeded to camp in such a way as to nearly surround Ticonderoga, an English lieutenant was sent to reconnoiter Sugar Loaf Hill on a point of land south of the Lake George outlet. He climbed this rough peak and found that it so completely overlooked both Ticonderoga and Mount Independence that the men in these posts could be counted while at the same time it commanded the American shipping and the bridge of communication between the two forts. There had been some discussion among the Americans the year before about occupying this hill but it seems to have been decided by those in authority to have been out of range. The English, however, at once took possession of it, christening it Mount Defiance and hastened to cut a road to its summit on the day and night of the fourth of July. When day broke on the morning of the fifth St. Clair found the English looking down upon him from Mount Defiance and preparing to build a battery. He saw at once that all hope of making a stand to any purpose was over, for as soon as the battery should be in a state to open fire the forts and shipping must not only be destroyed but the last chance for retreat cut off. The dilemma was a

hard one for St. Clair, who to preserve his army must disgrace himself in the eyes of the public by flying from the enemy without striking a blow or stand the siege with the certainty of losing a force much needed for the defence of the country below. St. Clair held a council of war in the morning and in the afternoon he sent for his quartermaster and told him that an evacuation had been determined upon.

“Have you had any orders from General Schuyler?” the quartermaster ventured to ask.

St. Clair replied that he had not.

“I am extremely sorry for it,” said the quartermaster significantly.

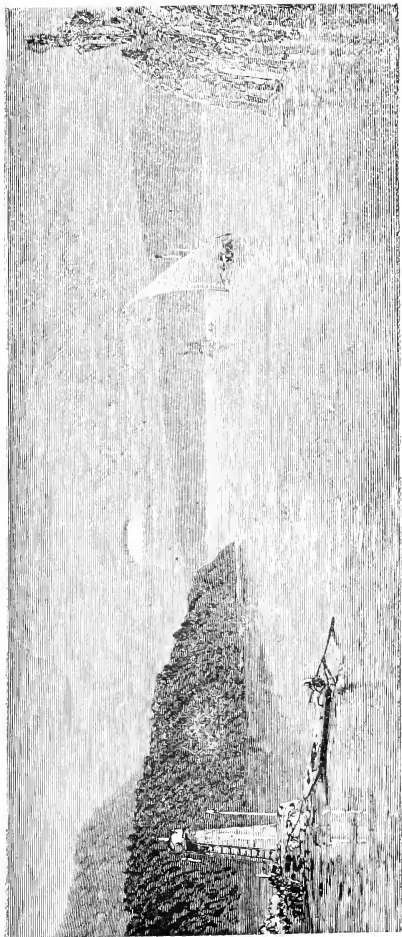
“I know well what you mean,” said St. Clair, and I have seriously considered the consequences of the step I am taking. If I remain here I will save my character and lose the army. If I retreat I will save the army and lose my character, which I am determined to sacrifice to the cause in which I am engaged.”

The nights are at their shortest at this season of the year and the moon shone on that of July fifth, the last on which the American army might hope to escape from the trap which was being laid about it, for General Phillips of the English army, famous for having saved the day at the battle of Minden at the expense of twenty canes broken over the backs of artillery horses, had urged on the work of dragging cannon up Mount Defiance to such purpose that a battery would be ready to open fire when day broke.

Everything must therefore be done with the

greatest expedition. Early in the evening the sick, the women and some baggage and stores were put aboard six armed galleys under guard of Colonel Long and five hundred men and sent through the southern arm of Lake Champlain toward Whitehall, General St. Clair intended to take with the main body of the army a roundabout route by land through Castleton, Vermont, to the same place. During the hurry and confusion of hasty preparations two eighteen pound cannon kept up a steady fire on the English shipping that the enemy might suspect nothing. It was two o'clock when St. Clair and the main army marched across the bridge to Mount Independence. About this time the headquarters of General Roche DeFermoy, a foreign officer commanding at Mount Independence, were set on fire. The blaze lighted up the whole of the American works and as it must reveal all their movements to the enemy greatly alarmed the men whose line of march at this time extended from the foot of Mount Independence to the Castleton road outside of the fort. They fell into confusion in their eagerness to be off and St. Clair was obliged to halt and form the line again. It was almost four o'clock in the morning when the rear of the American army got out of the fort.

The evacuation of Ticonderoga was a complete surprise to the English. When the alarm was given General Fraser at once advanced from his camp, at Mount Hope to occupy the fort, but the Americans had destroyed the bridge at this point and posted loaded cannon to defend it. The three or four men,



VIEW ON LAKE CHAMPLAIN.

however, who had been left behind to touch off the guns as the approach of the enemy had found a cask of Maderia wine and were lying drunk in the fort. As soon as the bridge could be sufficiently repaired Fraser marched into Ticonderoga, hoisted the British colors, and crossing to Mount Independence hastened in pursuit of General St. Clair followed by General Riedesel and his German troops.

The inglorious fall of Ticonderoga was a bitter disappointment to all Americans and both General St. Clair and General Schuyler who was the chief in command in the north, lost character by it and were only freed from blame some time after at their trials before a court martial. The English were greatly elated at the easy conquest of a post made famous in Europe by the struggles of the French war. In England the king was wildly exultant, rushing to tell the queen that he had beaten all the Americans.

THE CHASE.

The English gave chase all the day of the sixth of July which was very hot. Both armies were compelled to stop for rest at nightfall. General St. Clair encamped at Castleton and sent orders to the officers of his rear guard commanded by Colonels Francis, Hale and Warner, to advance within two miles of his army before encamping. They however, stopped at Hubbardtown, six miles behind the main army. The pursuing English troops under Fraser took up their march about daybreak on the morning of the seventh of July and surprised the Americans at Hubbardtown at their breakfast. The latter were

hastily formed into line by their brave officers Francis and Warner, Colonel Hale failing to make a stand. Both English and Americans made a rush for commanding ground to the west of the encampment and met in the attempt. The Americans were driven back upon the spot where they had encamped, fighting fiercely in frontier fashion from behind logs and trees. The English drove them on and got between them and retreat to the main army at Castleton. The Americans rallied and made a stand. Again the English drove them in and they attempted to retreat across the Pittsford Mountains but the English getting in their rear they once more gave battle and were likely to have gained the day when the arrival of Riedesel's Germans, singing their national hymn, decided the struggle in favor of the English. Many Americans escaped through the woods.

Though the English were victorious at Hubbardton they were so far checked by the fierce resistance of the Americans as to pursue St. Clair's retreating army no farther. The general hearing that Burgoyne was advancing upon Whitehall struck through the woods from Castleton and after a toilsome and famished march reached Fort Edward in safety with the main body of his troops which under General Schuyler was to form the nucleus of the northern army of defence. When St. Clair had left Castleton Riedesel occupied it for about three weeks at first to protect the English wounded which were being laboriously carried in hand barrows back to Ticonderoga. This position of the German wing of

the army Burgoyne intended also as a kind of a threat thrown out toward New England, and he believed it would have the good effect of keeping the men of that region at home.

BURGOYNE AT WHITEHALL.

After breaking the American boom by a well-directed cannon shot and hewing asunder the bridge which connected Ticonderoga with Mount Independence. Burgoyne, on the morning of the American retreat, sailed up the southern arm of Lake Champlain in pursuit of the flying vessels loaded with baggage, the women and the sick under the guard of Colonel Long. He overtook the rear of this retreating portion of the American army near Skenesborough, now Whitehall. A smart action followed in which two American galleys were captured. The others reached Whitehall where they were they were blown up by the retreating Americans, who also set fire to the storehouses, mills and barracks here. This fire spread to the neighboring forests and mountains making a sight grand and novel to the English. Burgoyne established his headquarters at Skenesborough House, the mansion of Philip Skene who accompanied him thus retaking his home by invasion.

THE BATTLE OF FORT ANNE.

The English Colonel Hill with a regiment of something over five hundred veteran soldiers was sent in pursuit of Colonel Long who commanded about the same number of men, some of whom were invalids just recovering from an epidemic of the measles which had raged in St. Clair's army. Colonel Hill

overtook and captured some boatloads of women and the sick making their way up Wood Creek. When he arrived within a half a mile of Fort Anne, being falsely informed that the Americans had been reinforced and were strongly entrenched, he halted and sent to Burgoyne for aid. The Americans, however, did not wait for an attack but sallied out from Fort Anne on the eighth of July. Long attacked the English in front with a portion of his men while the remainder under Colonel VanRensselaer crossed the creek and sought to gain the English rear, pouring down upon them so hot a fire as to force them to push up a hill for fear of being surrounded. Here the Americans assaulted them again most savagely, fighting for two hours. When their ammunition was exhausted and the near approach of the English reinforcements announced by the whoops of proceeding Indians, the Americans withdrew but not without first burning Fort Anne. Though the English claimed a victory they returned to Whitehall leaving the Americans free to reoccupy Fort Anne which they did five days later and worked their will about this region for some time after very much to the damage of the roads through which Burgoyne expected to pass in his advance upon the Hudson.

The battle of Fort Anne was a most spirited struggle on the part of a handful of hard pressed men and did honor to American courage. Here and at Hubbarton the English were obliged to admit that Americans were no poltroons and a few were shrewd enough to see that the invading army had gained

nothing but "honor" of the most barren sort, while these two checks delayed the English and gave the Americans what they most needed, time to recover from the loss of Ticonderoga. Still success seemed to be with the English and many royalists and Indians were encouraged to flock to Burgoyne's standard.

THE WORK OF OBSTRUCTION.

They were none too good in those days, the rude forest-shaded tracks over rocks and stumps and endless marshes known as roads, and Major Skene, the founder of Whitehall, is credited with having advised Burgoyne to proceed by Fort Anne instead of by Lake George against Fort Edward in order that a new and improved military road might be left behind by the conquering army for his future use. Burgoyne seems to have chosen this route rather than retire to Ticonderoga to descend by way of Lake George largely because he had set for himself the rule that a retreat must not be made. He feared that a retrograde movement of any sort might put him in a ridiculous position with his men.

General Schuyler at Fort Edward fervently wished for only a few day's time which would, he believed, enable him to prevent the enemy's reaching Albany that year. The English general's dislike for backward movements, the necessarily slow work of moving forward stores and a large park of artillery and the checks at Hubbardton and Fort Anne gave him the time he wished for. While the English were firing *feu de joye* at Ticonderoga, at Whitehall and at Castleton in honor of their successes he was en-

gaged in saving the stores at the head of Lake George and in obstructing the navigation of Wood Creek by which heavy articles were then carried some distance toward Fort Edward. He also caused the road to be barricaded by felling the forests across it and destroying what bridges existed. To make Burgoyne's progress more difficult he ordered all wagons, horses and cattle to be driven off and fodder and grain to be destroyed.

DIFFICULTIES AND DISCOURAGEMENTS.

The Americans in the north were deeply disheartened, many of the inhabitants of this part of the country wavered toward the English cause, and even the soldiers had such a superstitious terror of Indians that on Burgoyne's descent of the Hudson it was with difficulty that small bodies of men could be persuaded to make a stand and skirmish with the savages. Schuyler's troops had been robbed at a blow by the sudden capture of Ticonderoga, of artillery, tents, kettles, tools, ammunition, blankets, everything, even to courage for after Burgoyne began at length to advance upon Fort Edward numbers of the American army deserted. Schuyler lay now at Fort Edward with something over four thousand men forced to sleep under dripping brush in incessant rain. Meanwhile he, as well as St. Clair, were blamed with the loss of Ticonderoga and the most ridiculous stories were believed about them. The rumor was circulated that they were traitors and had been bribed to give up this post without a blow, receiving their reward in silver bullets which were shot into the works at Ticonderoga and

which St. Clair had caused to be picked up and forwarded to Schuyler.

In spite of the immense difficulty of his position at this time Schuyler never for a moment despaired, but strove to put heart into his alarmed countrymen who appealed to him from the Mohawk country now also threatened with invasion. He urged them in stirring words to exert themselves, to prove themselves men by showing no signs of fear and predicted that they would not only save their country but gain immortal honor. When all were desponding he reminded the people that once before an army under Montcalm had been on the southern side of Lake George and all had without reason despaired almost to abandoning the upper Hudson without a blow. He believed and declared that Burgoyne would run himself into great danger by descending the Hudson.

JANE McCREA.

Burgoyne remained nearly three weeks at Whitehall waiting to bring forward stores for his army, clearing Wood Creek for navigation, cutting away obstructions in the Fort Edward road and building something like three miles of corduroy over marshy road bed. It was the twenty-third of July when his van reached Fort Anne. Burgoyne made Fort Anne his headquarters while his advanced troops moved upon Fort Edward five days later. As the English approached Schuyler abandoned this post, which like other forts of the French war, was utterly untenable. The Americans fell down to Fort

Miller and Moses Creek, leaving a small rear guard at Fort Edward until the last moment.

The advance of the English was as usual preceded by hordes of Indians who scattered in all directions in search of plunder, of scalps and of prisoners. They so laid this country waste that visitors to this region at the close of the war were struck with the desolation of burned farm houses everywhere to be seen. The people of the country fled before the approach of the English army though some loyalists lingered behind. Among these was Jane McCrea, the daughter of a New Jersey Presbyterian clergyman. Her father being dead, she had been living with her brother now a soldier in the American army. She was, however, engaged to a young man named David Jones who, being a loyalist, had joined Burgoyne's army on its approach from Canada, and was an officer in one of the loyalist regiments. The young girl is said to have received a letter from her lover promising to meet her at Fort Edward and she was unwilling on the approach of the English army to retire to Albany with her brother's family but went instead to the house of Mrs. McNeil, a loyalist, and cousin of General Fraser of the English army who naturally expected a warm reception from her relative. One of the marauding parties of Indians, however, fell upon Mrs. McNeill's house and dragging her and Jane out of the cellar where they had hastened to take refuge, carried them off prisoners. The Indians were pursued by a party of American soldiers from Fort Edward. When the pursuers fired the fleeing Indians threw themselves and Mrs.

McNeil to the ground to avoid their rifle balls. The Indians had divided into two parties and Jane McCrea was taken off on horseback in another direction and Mrs. McNeil at once lost sight of her. The older woman reached the English army in safety though very angry for she was presented to her cousin, the general, in a sad plight, having been stripped by the Indians of almost every garment she wore. She soon afterward recognized the scalp of Jennie McCrea in the hands of some Indians who averred that she had been shot by the pursuing Americans. If there had been any reason to believe this story the English would gladly have sheltered themselves from blame behind it for they were deeply mortified at this unfortunate occurrence.

It has always been believed that the young girl was killed by one of two Indians who quarreled as to which was her captor. It has also long been the story that one of the two Indians who quarreled over her had been sent by her lover to bring her to camp that the two might be married, but this is doubtful. The only facts that are certain about the death of this unfortunate girl are that she lingered near the approaching army to which her lover was attached and that she was captured and killed by the Indians. Other royalists, whole families even, are said to have suffered the same fate, the savages knowing no difference between friends and foes to the English cause and being eager for household plunder which they carried off in the ticks of straw beds, one fellow having even been seen with a looking glass strapped upon his back.

The death of Jane McCrea occurred on or about the twenty-eighth of July when the advance of the English army reached Sandy Hill. Burgoyne's headquarters were still at Fort Anne. He went at once to the Indian camp, called a council and rated the Indians soundly. These people meekly promised to leave off their time-honored mode of warfare but though the general, for policy's sake pardoned Jane McCrea's murderer, the Indians steadily deserted from that day, carrying with them their ill-gotten loads of plunder.

The Americans had meanwhile found the body of Jane McCrea near that of Colonel VanVechten, who had been killed in a skirmish the same day. They carried them both to Moses Creek for burial. Jane McCrea's remains were afterward removed to Fort Edward and again to the Union Cemetery between Sandy Hill and Fort Edward where they now are. The story spread far and wide and was told with various embellishments; the unfortunate girl was surpassingly lovely and her hair was long, glossy and black as a raven's wing when in reality she seems to have possessed no great beauty and to have had red or blonde hair. Her death greatly discouraged loyalists intent on joining Burgoyne's army, was discussed with bitterness in Parliament and struck a horror to American hearts that helped to arouse them to a more enthusiastic and determined resistance.

FIRST MOVE UPON SARATOGA.

It was about the twenty-ninth of July that the advance of the English army reached Fort Edward and

camped on high ground near this post, the numerous camp fires making at nightfall a beautiful sight. The rear guard of German troops remained at Fort Anne until August sixth to guard the provision train following the army to Fort Edward. Meanwhile a portion of Burgoyne's force was advancing by way of Lake George with the cumbersome park of artillery.

Burgoyne had now reached the Hudson and was within fifty miles of Albany. He was informed that St. Leger was before Fort Stanwix at the head of the Mohawk valley. In order to co-operate with him according to the original plan it was necessary that he should at once move forward to the important triangle of Saratoga, there to make a junction with St. Leger, as he descended the Mohawk. Such a movement would also have the advantage of so fully occupying Schuyler as to prevent his sending troops to the defense of the Mohawk valley. As the surrounding country had been stripped bare of food and of the horses and wagons needed for its transport, it was necessary for the English to depend solely on supplies of flour and beef cattle brought by water four hundred miles from Quebec which was trundled and driven at great labor and with much waste of time over rough and hilly roads from Lake George in the wagons with which the army was but scantily provided. To carry these necessary supplies down the Hudson in the absence of a sufficient number of wagons, batteaux must be dragged on wheels from Lake George and were so damaged by the trip as to need fresh caulking at

Fort Edward. After being loaded at this port these boats could float but a few miles down the river before they met an obstacle at Fort Miller Falls where they must be unloaded and they and their contents hauled around the falls to be once more launched and loaded afresh.

To avoid these difficulties and the waste of precious time which they entailed, Burgoyne bethought himself of robbing Schuyler's army of its stock of flour, beef, cattle and wagons gathered at Bennington, not far to the eastward. An expedition for this place would also carry out a cherished plan of his which was to strike a blow at New England while it would, so Major Skene assured him, bring a number of loyalist recruits from the debatable land of Vermont. Another advantage which was expected to flow from this raid would be the capture of a number of horses with which to mount the German dragoons who with their weighty caps, long coat tails, enormous boots and swords dangling to the ground, were not fitted for other modes of locomotion.

On the ninth of August General Fraser with the van of the English army, advanced to a point opposite Fort Miller to support the movement on Bennington. A German officer, Colonel Baum, with a body of German dragoons, and a few English rangers, loyalists and savages, amounting to over five hundred men, was despatched toward Bennington, if so clumsy a soldier as a German dragoon can be said ever to have been despatched anywhere. His march was not rendered more expeditious by the

flour he carried and the herd of beef cattle which he drove with him for supplies. Baum was accompanied by Skene who was to enlist the loyalist inhabitants of the region now known as Vermont, while the country was to be scoured for horses with which to mount the dragoons. Having secured the stores at Bennington Baum was to despatch them back to Burgoyne, after which his force having been transformed by mounting into cavalry, he was to take the main road for Albany while Burgoyne fell down the other side of the Hudson through Saratoga county toward the same goal. To be ready for the latter rapid movement, Burgoyne's army moved down the east bank of the Hudson to opposite Schuylerville and the advance troops under Fraser crossed the river near the mouth of the Battenkill on a bridge of rafts linked together with chains, and encamped on Saratoga soil. The remainder of the army lay opposite Fort Miller where Burgoyne established his headquarters in the unfinished mansion of a Mr. Duer.

FALLING BACK.

This forward movement of Burgoyne's army and St. Leger's attack on the Mohawk Valley forced Schuyler with the American army to retreat through Saratoga county to the mouth of the Mohawk in order to resist the invasion both from the north and from the west. He still, however, made Stillwater his headquarters.

For the English much hung on the expedition to Bennington. This place was then but a cluster of log huts and was, as Burgoyne knew, defended only

by militia. By a lucky accident it happened, however, that General Stark, suffering from a slight from Congress in regard to a matter of rank, had refused to leave Vermont to join Schuyler's army. When the invaders approached Stark gathered the regular troops and militia at hand and marched to meet Baum. This innocent foreigner having heard much from Skene of the loyalty of the Vermont people, received in a friendly manner the advances of a number of men who had joined him four miles short of Bennington and claimed to be loyalists. He allowed them to hang about him and camp on either side of his forces.

It was the fourteenth of August when Baum fell in with General Stark. He at once retired to a hill, entrenched and sent to Burgoyne for reinforcements. A heavy rain prevented a battle on the following day but on the sixteenth Stark attacked Baum while the supposed royalists suddenly transformed into veritable Green Mountain boys, proceeded to cut off his retreat to the main army, The Americans assaulted the German entrenchments in the face of two cannon, the Germans defended themselves bravely and a hot battle followed which lasted for two hours. The Americans at length captured the German cannon and turned them against Baum, who, his ammunition being now exhausted, attempted to cut his way through the Americans with bayonet and broadsword, but soon fell mortally wounded. Most of the Germans were captured, the fleeter footed Indians and English of the party escaping. Colonel Breyman with another body of

German troops had been sent to Baum's aid and detained by muddy roads and the heaviness of his troops arrived on the battlefield just too late. He at once attacked Stark's exhausted men who were reinforced, however, at a lucky moment by the regiment of Colonel Seth Warner. Breyman was beaten and only saved from capture by a night retreat. Burgoyne marched his whole army forward to the Battenkill opposite Saratoga to cover this retreat. The bridge of rafts on which General Fraser had crossed the Hudson had meanwhile broken away in the floods following the recent rains, leaving the advance guard of the English arm in Saratoga County cut off from the main body on the other side of the river. As no Americans were at hand the men were got safely across in boats.

The immediate crossing of the whole army to Saratoga was necessarily abandoned after the defeat at Bennington. The rear of Burgoyne's army fell back to Fort Edward that connections might be kept up with Canada and food by way of Lake George and Lake Champlain. Thus early was Burgoyne forced to make a retrograde movement which was however somewhat concealed by the advance of his own headquarters from Fort Miller to Battenkill opposite old Saratoga, and from this time he dated his letters from "Near Saratoga."

The success at Bennington was the first turn of the tide for the Americans. They lost their earlier awe of the Indians, of Germans and of English regulars, they forgot the disheartenment which had followed the fall of Ticonderoga and they flocked to

Schuyler's standard for the defence of their country.

SARATOGA INVADED.

Notwithstanding the threatening advance of a portion of Burgoyne's army to the Saratoga bank of the river and in spite of the advice of the timid, Schuyler detached Arnold from his still weak army to raise the siege of Fort Stanwix on the Mohawk. The mere exaggerated rumor of Arnold's approach was sufficient for the half-Indian force beleaguering this post and they departed in the utmost haste. A courier following an old Indian route by Saratoga Lake and across the river at Glens Falls brought the news to General Burgoyne of this misfortune.

The English were now beaten back on the right and on the left. When the prospect of the American cause seemed at length more hopeful Schuyler, who had borne the burden of misfortune with so much spirit, was replaced by General Gates. There was much local feeling at this time and Schuyler was unpopular with the New England soldiers who disliked "Yorkers," while many people had not yet got rid of suspicions of Schuyler which such stories as that of the silver bullets gave rise to. Gates had been a regular English officer and was supposed to be more experienced in military matters.

The American army was relieved by the retreat of St. Leger of the necessity for opposing an invasion from the Mohawk as well as from the upper Hudson and advanced through Saratoga County to Bemis Heights beyond Stillwater. This spot was chosen by the Polish engineer, Kosciusko, for the reason that the river valley is suddenly narrowed here to a

few rods in width by the approach of the river hills to the stream. It would be easier to defend this narrow pass against the advance of the English upon Albany, than to check them in more open ground.

Failing to get in the valley of the upper Hudson any supplies other than a few sheep and horses brought in by wavering inhabitants, Burgoyne was forced to remain on the eastern bank of the Hudson between Fort Edward and Battenkill for over three weeks while by great efforts a sufficient amount of supplies were brought from Lake George to last the army for thirty days. Hopeful and self-confident as he was, the English general seems not to have been without his doubts at this time. He did not know that through the carelessness of the English ministry, the orders for Howe at New York to cooperate with him had been pigeon-holed, but he knew that Howe instead of ascending the Hudson had gone southward. A more cautious general would have intrenched himself behind the Hudson and waited where he ran no risk of being cut off from supplies and retreat. But Burgoyne had staked all upon this campaign. He is said to have boasted that he would eat his Christmas dinner in Albany where his younger officers confidently expected comfortable quarters for the winter, intending to dance the ladies of the town into submission. He was above all a dashing man and not the one to take the risk of being accused of cowardice for the sake of saving an army. He called no council of his general officers for fear of hearing advice he did not wish to accept but resolved to cut himself loose

from his connections by crossing the Hudson and trust to pushing his way through to Albany within the single month in which he could feed his men.

The batteaux of the army were linked together into a floating bridge above the mouth of the Battenkill and the main army crossed the Hudson to the Saratoga side on the thirteenth of September. At the forward movement Burgoyne's spirits rose to such a pitch that he exclaimed in the high-flown English that he loved:

“Britons never retrograde!”

Tired of inaction all were elated and it was in a most cheerful mood that officers and men set foot on the soil of Saratoga. Women even caught the infection and the possibility of disaster seemed to enter no one's mind. The English army encamped on a plain north of Fish Creek where the village of Schuylerville now stands. On the other side of the small stream lay the old village of Saratoga, and here stood the handsome country residence of General Philip Schuyler, who had inherited the property of his uncle, the Peter Schuyler who had been massacred here in the third French war. There was also a church and a flour mill belonging to the general. The fields were waving with growing wheat and oats in this region. The grain was at once harvested by the army, the wheat being ground at the mill for the use of the men and the oats reserved for the horses which drew the artillery and baggage. Burgoyne made Schuyler's house his headquarters. The Indians of his army are said to have resorted

at this time to Saratoga Lake to procure fine trout for his table.

On the fifteenth of September tents were struck, the floating bridge was broken up and Burgoyne's army moved southward through Saratoga County, following the windings of the river down which the batteaux floated loaded with the necessities of life. It was necessary for one column of the army to march along the crest of the wooded river hills to protect the whole from surprise. The more cumbersome portion burdened with artillery and baggage streamed along the river road. The route lay through beautiful and endless forests. The men sang as they marched and longed for victory. The army encamped for the night at Dovogat, now Coveville, and remained in camp the following day while advanced parties repaired the bridges ahead over which it was to move.

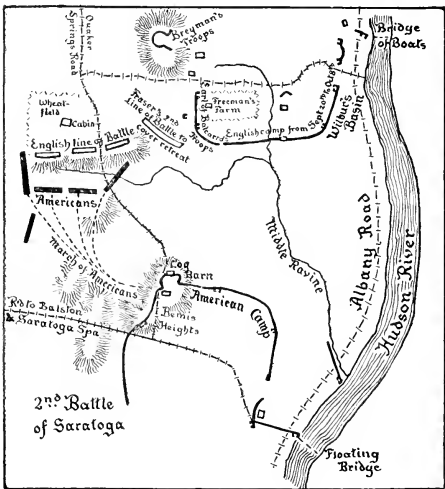
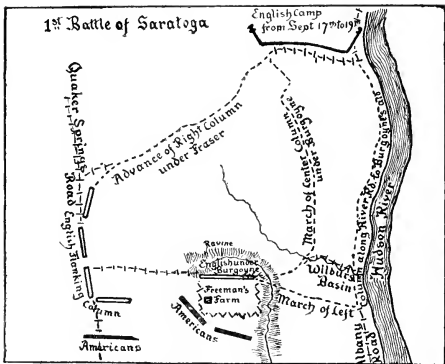
The English army now amounted to about six thousand men, portions of it having been detached to man posts, others having been killed or taken in the various engagements. Of the number of Indians who had originally joined Burgoyne's army there remained but fifty; there were besides three hundred drivers, workmen and boatmen and nearly as many women and camp followers. Several officer's wives also accompanied the army. Among these was Lady Harriet Acland, a handsome and "delicate little piece of quality" who had joined her husband after he had been wounded at Hubbardton, and the Baroness de Riedesel who, with three little children, had followed the baron all the way from Germany

and now traveled amidst the soldiers in a Canadian calash attended by two maids and a cook. These ladies had no doubt of spending a pleasant winter in Albany and had not found it disagreeable to dine in barns well attended.

On the morning of September seventeenth Burgoyne advanced only a short distance to a place then known as Sword's farm, midway between Coveville and Wilbur's Basin. He was now nearing the American camp and there was ominous skirmishing between the men sent ahead to repair bridges and American scouting parties. Some women and soldiers who ventured out of the English camp to dig potatoes in a field were captured after several had been killed.

THE FIRST BATTLE OF SARATOGA.

On the morning of September nineteenth, 1777, Burgoyne divided his forces into three columns and marched upon the American encampment, determined to force his way past the army of Gates and on to Albany. General Phillips with the heavy park of artillery followed the river road and was guarded on the east by General Riedesel who skirted the river bank on his left. These generals advanced straight toward the works with which the Americans defended the pass between the river and their camp on Bemis Heights. A central column under Burgoyne advanced at the same time over the hills to attack the Americans in front while a third under Fraser marched through the forests still farther to the west cutting as it went a part of what is now the road from Quaker Springs to Schuylerville.





It was Burgoyne's plan that this most western column having made a circuit around the head of the ravine should fall upon the left or west of the American position while Burgoyne attacked it in front and Phillips and Riedesel kept the Americans occupied at the river bank. It was not thought that the American works which were hastily thrown up could stand artillery and it was expected that when the Americans were driven in on the hills by the combined attacks of Burgoyne and Fraser, Riedesel and Phillips would be able to force their way through the American right to the river's edge and so continue the march toward Albany. There were to be signal guns fired when Fraser had completed his more roundabout march and at this moment the combined attack was to begin.

But the English were not destined to see the American works that day. By mid-day Burgoyne had reached a point a little north of Freeman's farm, one of those settlers clearings to be found here and there in the woods of those days. Canadians and Indians were thrown out in advance of his column to prevent a surprise. They had crossed the ravine south of Freeman's farm when they fell in with the Virginia Colonel Morgan, whose sharpshooters were the dread of the English soldiers and who had been sent by Washington to the aid of the invaded north. Morgan attacked the Canadians and Indians, driving them across the ravine and backward toward Freeman's farm until they were reinforced by a strong body of English soldiers under Major Forbes. A brisk little struggle followed and Forbes was

presently forced to retreat to where the English column under Burgoyne was forming in an open pine wood to the north of Freeman's farm. Morgan retired from before the English front but being reinforced advanced again and attacked it.

Meanwhile Arnold's division of the American army attempted to cut Fraser off by getting between him and Burgoyne. The woods hid the movements of both bodies of men, the one from the other, until they finally met on some level ground to the west of Freeman's farm. Here a fierce struggle took place until when fresh troops being sent to Fraser's aid by Burgoyne, Arnold's men were forced to retire. Fraser kept his position to the west of Burgoyne during the remainder of the day to protect him on this side but there was no more fighting at this point.

All this was but the prelude to the real struggle. There was a lull while the English drew up in line of battle to the north and the Americans to the south of Freeman's farm, and here the main battle began at three o'clock in the afternoon. The fire of the Americans from the cover of the thick woods to the south was most galling in its perfection of aim. Again and again the English charged them and tried to dislodge them at the point of the bayonet but were driven back across the fields of the little clearing. At one time the Americans pressed the English so hard that they must have given way had not General Phillips marched through the woods from the river road to Burgoyne's aid with some artillery. There was a fierce struggle over the English artillery posted on the little farm. When the Americans

pursued the English back across the farm after each bayonet charge they captured the pieces but could neither carry them away, for want of horses, nor turn them on the enemy for lack of a match with which to touch them off. At the next charge they fell once more into English hands only to be again retaken and relinquished.

For four hours the battle raged back and forth across the twelve or fourteen acres of the little clearing. Several times the Americans brought fresh troops to the attack while three English regiments bore the brunt of the battle. The English were at length pretty nearly surrounded on both flanks and must have lost the day had not General Riedesel guided by the firing made his way through the woods from the river bank to their aid. Just at the close of day, at between seven and eight o'clock a final bayonet charge drove the Americans from the field.

The English were the victors. They remained in possession of the few bare little acres of Freeman's farm, and Burgoyne included this spot in his camp, declaring that thus his victory must be made so apparent that it would be beyond the power of even an American newspaper to explain it away. But though the English were victorious they were so nearly beaten as to be unable to follow up their victory on the following morning when had they but known it they would have found the Americans quite out of ammunition, an expected supply being yet on the road from Albany. More than all, their victory was a barren one for they were no nearer

Albany than on the previous day and the Americans were still strong in their front.

The American losses were from three to four hundred, the English amounted to from six hundred to a thousand. The English losses were greater than those of the Americans, because of the greater precision of aim of sharpshooters and settlers trained to hunting from childhood. Though the Americans were not victorious they were so encouraged by their own success in making a stand against the invaders that numbers flocked to Gates' standard after the battle.

BETWEEN THE BATTLES.

After the first battle of Saratoga Burgoyne encamped in a line from Freeman's farm on the west to Wilbur's Basin on the river bank. He threw a bridge of boats across the river to obtain forage for his horses from the eastern shore. Three days after the battle a messenger arrived from Sir Henry Clinton at New York with the news that this general intended to co-operate with Burgoyne by ascending the Hudson. This gave fresh hope to the English commanding officer who knew that General Gates had a bridge across the river at his camp and expected that the approach of an English army from the south would force him to retreat across the Hudson for the defense of New England or that he would at least detach a part of his army for this purpose and so weaken it.

For three weeks of charming fall weather the English and American armies lay so near that the wadding of an American morning and evening gun

struck the English works, yet so hidden by intervening woods that neither could get a sight of the other and both were ignorant of each other's numbers or position. Both armies labored to strengthen their works, the Americans adding to their's and extending them farther westward.

Two days after the battle the men in the English camp heard a great deal of shouting and rejoicing among the Americans. It was not until some days later that Burgoyne learned that it was due to the partial success of an American detachment under Colonel Brown who had been sent to fall upon Ticonderoga. Colonel Brown had captured some English vessels, part of an English regiment and released a number of American prisoners at this post.

In the English camp the men lay on their arms in constant dread of an attack, there were frequent alarms and at night packs of wolves howled dismally around the battlefield of the nineteenth scratching up the scantily-covered bodies of the dead. By the fourth of October Burgoyne's position was become well-nigh intolerable. His provisions were running low and it became necessary to put the men on half rations while his horses were suffering severely for want of forage. Riedesel and Fraser urged an immediate retreat across the Saratoga ford to a position above the Battenkill where communications might be kept up with Canada through Lake George and Lake Champlain. General Burgoyne having in every way bound himself to advance was unwilling to make any backward movement. He preferred to hazard one more effort to force himself past the

American army. He believed that on the west of the American camp where the works were unfinished cannon might be posted in such a way as to command them and that they might be taken at this point. It was impossible to be certain of this without reconnoitering the western wing of the American position which could not be done with the usual small parties because of the disposition the Americans showed to fight any body of men which attempted to approach them. Burgoyne therefore resolved to march with a force of fifteen hundred picked men on the seventh of October to a clearing southwest of Freeman's farm for the double purpose of reconnoitring and of harvesting the standing straw in an abandoned wheat field for the sustenance of his perishing horses. If it was then found that an attack could with any hope of success be made on the American camp, Burgoyne proposed to give battle on the following day ; if not he intended to retreat that very night.

A battle was not looked for on this day and Madame de Riedesel expected all the generals of the army to dine with her that very afternoon. She was alarmed when she saw a movement among the troops but was reassured when told that it was merely a reconnaissance and her cook proceeded with preparations for a dinner to be given in the one room of a little farm house in which she was forced to live.

THE SECOND BATTLE OF SARATOGA.

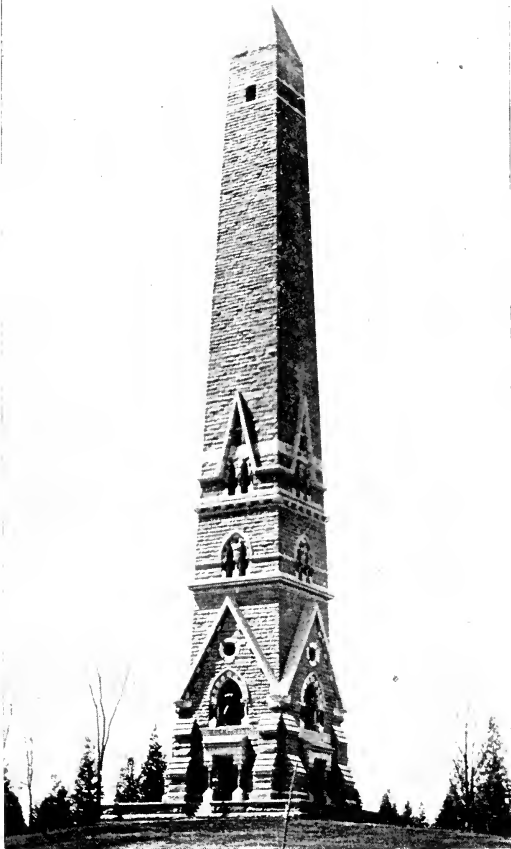
Between ten and eleven o'clock on the morning of the seventh of October, Burgoyne marched to the

new clearing southwest of Freeman's farm. He drew up his men around three sides of an oblong, those on the left being on the crest of a gentle hill at the eastern edge of the field, the main line facing south and running through the woods to a little knoll. When the men were formed in line they were allowed to sit down with their muskets between their knees while the foragers in their rear cut the standing straw in the wheat field and several officers climbed to the roof of the log farm house to reconnoiter the western portion of the American camp. A party of Indian and Canadian soldiers were sent to create a diversion at the American camp while Burgoyne reconnoitered. They got into the rear of a log barn which was the farthest western point of the American defenses but were driven back after a smart skirmish.

A young American officer sent forward to discover what the enemy was at gained the woods on the other side of the ravine which skirted the left of the field where the English were engaged in foraging. He returned to General Gates and reported the enemy's position. It was thought that Burgoyne was offering battle. Troops were sent to fall upon the English in front and on either side at the same time. The English had nearly finished their reconnoissance and in half an hour later would have returned to their lines when at about three o'clock in the afternoon the Americans fell upon them. Generals Poor and Learned having ordered their men to hold their fire until they were "rising the hill," pushed up the slope on the east where the English

grenadiers were stationed forming the left flank of the English position. The grenadiers greeted them with a volley of grape and musketry, which being aimed too high, went over the heads of the Americans who as they gained the summit of the rise fired and opened to right and left to form on both flanks of the grenadiers. At the top of the hill there was a close and bloody struggle. One field piece was taken and retak-n five times, the Americans finally holding it and having "sworn it true to America." turned it on the grenadiers who were forced to give away about the time that their major, Acland, was severely wounded. While this was going on upon the eastern part of the field Morgan fell upon the English right wing to the west and after a sharp struggle forced the enemy to break and give way. The men were, however, rallied by the Earl of Balcarras behind a rail fence but only to be again forced in by superior numbers. The center of the English position consisting mainly of Germans was attacked at the same time. The whole English line being at length thrown into confusion by the driving in of both wings a retreat began. General Fraser formed a second line of battle in the rear of the first position to cover the retreat. While he was riding about on a fine gray horse encouraging the men to make a firm stand he was shot by one of Morgan's sharpshooters by that officer's command, he having seen that the fate of the day probably depended on the life of this brave officer.

The Americans were reinforced about this time by General Ten Broeck and three thousand New



SARATOGA MONUMENT AT SCHUYLERVILLE.

York militia and just at dusk the English were forced to retreat in haste to their lines. As they poured into the camp they were followed by General Burgoyne who, with a face full of consternation, rode about ordering the officers to defend the lines while a man was left alive. The Americans followed fast on the heels of the retreating English. They assaulted the western part of the English works all along the line most furiously. It was now dark and the night was brilliantly illuminated with the flash of cannon and small arms. The Americans forced their way into the part of the lines commanded by the Earl of Balcarras on or near the battlefield of Freeman's farm but after a severe struggle they were driven out again. Others at the same time attacked the extreme right or most western part of the English position were the German officer, Colonel Breyman, was posted with a battery. While a body of Americans attacked this post in front others under General Learned drove back some Canadian troops who occupied two block houses in a hollow between Breyman and the main army. By the capture of these block houses the Americans were enabled to get into the rear of the German battery and in five minutes forced it, killed Breyman and dispersed the German soldiers who defended it.

Arnold had no command in the second battle of Saratoga, having quarreled with Gates. He became madly excited as the battle progressed, once striking an officer with his sword, an occurrence which he did not at all remember on the next day. He rode at one time from right to left of the American line

between the ranks of both armies and exposed to their fire. During the attack on Breyman's battery he led platoons of men furiously here and there. He entered the German battery at the moment of its fall and received here a wound in his leg while his horse was shot under him. Some accounts give him the credit of having almost at the same time forced the English works on the front where the Americans struggled with the troops of the Earl of Balcarras. His reckless courage has long made him the popular hero of the second battle of Saratoga though many more modest American officers fought most bravely and are forgotten. The true heroes of the day were the American farmers who flocked to the defense of their country, and who fought in its cause with unflinching ardor.

The action closed with the complete fall of night. The Americans were the victors and had gained a great advantage with the possession of Breyman's battery. They at once moved cannon forward with the intention of falling upon the exposed western end of the English line when day should have dawned. To save himself from a position which must have led to the destruction of his army Burgoyne was obliged to spend the night in drawing his lines in toward the river bank in a position somewhat back of that he had formerly occupied.

The English losses were large in this battle and over two hundred men were taken prisoners. The American losses were small. In both the battles of Saratoga many English officers were killed owing to the exact aim of the American riflemen. Great was

the consternation of Baroness de Riedesel when on the afternoon of the battle General Fraser, wounded and dying, was brought into the small farmhouse which she occupied and stretched on the table where dinner had been laid for the lady's expected guests. The dying man exclaimed against ambition, mourned for his wife, pitied General Burgoyne and frequently apologized to the baroness for the trouble he was giving her. When the latter saw toward morning that he was dying she wrapped her sleeping children in blankets and carried them to the passage already crowded with the sick and remained there till the last scene was over. She was obliged to sit all the following day in the room where lay the general's corpse wrapped in a sheet for burial. From this day all was terror and confusion for the women whom the confidence and indulgence of Burgoyne had permitted to join the army. Lady Acland was in deep distress because her husband had been sadly wounded and was a prisoner. An effort had been made to carry Acland off the field first by an officer who was his friend and then by a soldier who was offered fifty guineas for saving the wounded man but the Americans followed so closely upon the heels of the retreating English that the attempt had to be given up. Wilkinson, the American adjutant general crossed the part of the battlefield where the grenadiers had been defeated late in the afternoon and saw there within a space of fifteen yards eighteen dying grenadiers and three officers propped up against trees, two of them mortally wounded.

"Protect me, sir, against this boy," said a voice near at hand.

The young American officer turned to see Major Acland helpless from his wounds while a boy of fourteen was aiming a gun at him. Wilkinson dismounted, took the major's hand and said that he hoped that he was not badly wounded.

"Not badly," said the major, "but very inconveniently. I am shot through both legs. Will you, sir, have the goodness to have me conveyed to your camp."

Wilkinson ordered Acland to be put on his own horse and taken to the American camp. Before the battle was fairly over Acland's servant searched the battlefield for the Major but received a wound in his arm and was unable to find him. Lady Harriet Acland was consequently left in great anxiety about her husband's condition.

During the battle Gates had been in sufficient uncertainty as to its outcome to cause the baggage wagons to be loaded and ready to begin a retreat at a moments warning. The first news which reached the American army was that the English greatly outnumbered the Americans, whereupon the wagons began to move down the Albany road, but the rumor was almost immediately contradicted and they were ordered to halt. Several times during the battle they were started and then stopped until at length word came that the British had retreated. There arose loud huzzas from the guard and teamsters. The news spread at once to the surrounding country and many people who lived in the neighborhood hastened into the American camp to have a share in the rejoicings. The American soldiers were in a

delirium of joy and forgetting to be hungry neglected to draw their rations but pushed on eagerly to the front of the English position to be ready for the pursuit of the English army when it should retreat.

THE DAY AFTER.

Burgoyne expected that the Americans would renew the battle on the next day. But Gates proposed to risk nothing. He had already sent a body of men to occupy the heights of Saratoga at the ford which Burgoyne must cross in retreating northward and he perhaps felt that he had the English army in a trap. The Americans merely advanced to a spot near the narrowed English front on the river bank and kept up an incessant cannonade on Burgoyne's encampment. Within the English line a retreat was felt to be imminent and all the wounded officers and men who could stand on their legs staggered out of the hospital at the river's edge and up to the English lines that they might not be left behind.

Toward evening the body of General Fraser was carried, as he had requested, to the Great Redoubt for burial. The remaining generals of the army, Burgoyne, Phillips and Riedesel were standing together when the scanty funeral procession passed. Fearing that they might seem to the soldiery to slight the memory of a brave officer, the three fell into line and followed it. The American gunners seeing a group of men on the Great Redoubt turned their cannon on them and while the chaplain read in a steady voice the burial service, cannon balls

plowed up the ground around the assembled heads of the army. Madame de Riedesel, herself exposed to the enemy's fire, watched in the English camp this wanton risk of life in an agonized suspense. The dramatic nature of this burial pleased Burgoyne's imagination and he afterward described it in the overdrawn style in which he wrote.

THE RETREAT.

This scene was scarcely over when Burgoyne gave the order for a night retreat. From nine to eleven o'clock the army was silently filing out of its encampment and began "dancing the minuet backward" as a German officer said. Brightly lighted fires concealed the movement from the enemy and served to keep up an appearance of life in the camp for some time after it was deserted by all but the few hundred wounded men left behind in the hospital. A pouring rain added to the discomforts and difficulties of the night march. The main body of the American army had meanwhile returned to the encampment on Bemus Heights; the men having discovered by this time that they were hungry and exhausted were obliged to retire to draw their rations. Gates, indeed gave himself no great concern over the English retreat when he heard of it but put off going in pursuit until the rain should have ceased.

Burgoyne pushed on through the greater part of the night but halted before daylight at Coveville, to the disgust of many people in his army, as eager now to escape as they had once been to advance. They did not however know the commander's diffi-

culties. His flat bottomed battaux laden with the remnant of provisions made but slow progress up stream and as their loss would mean an immediate famine he was obliged to wait for them. During this halt Lady Harriet Acland distressed at being carried farther away from her wounded husband and dreading the being seperated from him for a long time if the retreat should prove successful, resolved to go to the American camp in search of him for though he was a rough man she was a devoted wife. Provided with a note from General Burgoyne to General Gates and fortified with a little rum and muddy water she descended the river in a boat accompanied by her maid, her husband's wounded valet and the good chaplain who had read the burial service at Fraser's funeral.

The batteaux at length arrived and the men drew rations. Some feared that it would be for the last time for the Americans lay in wait along the opposite shore of the Hudson and attacked the boats from time to time as they followed the retreat of the English army. Had Burgoyne pushed on more rapidly it is thought that he might have captured or dispersed the body of Americans rather carelessly encamped at the Saratoga ford. There was time, however, for a warning to reach them and as the English approached these men crossed the river and encamped on the opposite shore at the fording place, an insurmountable obstacle to Burgoyne's retreat by the road he had come.

The evening of the ninth brought the weary and mud-stained English to the old village of Saratoga.

The main army forded the Fish Creek waist deep and the men lay down to rest for the night without so much as building fires to dry their rain-soaked clothing. The Baroness de Riedesel slept beside her children in her wet garments on some straw before a camp fire. Weary as she was she would gladly have gone on for she was eager to escape capture and she did not know that retreat across the river by the usual route was already cut off. Burgoyne did not fail of his night's revelry, for he had invited his officers to a supper at the deserted mansion of General Schuyler which was brilliantly lighted for the purpose. A certain commissary's wife shared in these feasts, where glass jingled and singing and laughter went on for half the night. The morning after his midnight supper at Saratoga Burgoyne caused Schuyler's mansion to be burned lest it should shelter the American troops in their pursuit of the English.

THE PURSUIT.

The next morning revealed to the English the body of Americans posted on the other side of the river at the ford of Saratoga, where Burgoyne meant to have crossed to comparative safety and communication with home and food. There was but one way of escape left open and this was to continue up the western bank of the river to Fort Edward and to cross the Hudson at this point. Burgoyne now sent a detachment ahead to open roads for this purpose.

The Americans did not march in pursuit of the English until noon of October tenth, the second day

after the retreat. They reached Saratoga village at four o'clock on the same afternoon, so short a distance had the English succeeded in retreating, hampered as they were with the slow progress up stream of the batteaux and burdened with artillery. The Americans found the English army encamped on their old ground to the north of Fish Creek, its boats drawn up at the mouth of the little stream while men hastily unloaded the few provisions left. From the opposite bank of the river the American troops stationed near the ford to prevent a crossing played upon the English camp with artillery.

A TRAP FOR THE AMERICANS AT SARATOGA.

The next morning, October eleventh, there was a heavy fog. Hearing of the march of the body of English troops sent to clear the way to Fort Edward, Gates supposed that the main body of the English army was endeavoring to escape him in that way and had left the few guards known to be in front of the English camp at Saratoga to deceive him. He ordered the American troops to cross the creek in pursuit, part of them at the river road and others above the mill dam to the west. The latter troops under General Morgan were the first to cross. They fell in with an English picket which fired upon them and killed several men. Morgan did not like his position with the creek behind him. He believed that the English had not retreated as Gates had supposed. Other troops under General Learned were sent to his support. Wilkinson, the young adjutant general, after having visited Morgan and found that the body of American troops on the road

had not yet crossed but were waiting for guides sent to Gates who always kept well in the rear this message:

“Tell the general that his own fame and the interests of the cause are at hazard; that his presence is necessary with the troops.”

He then guided the right column of the American troops across the creek. Under cover of the fog these men succeeded in capturing an English reconnoitering party of thirty men. These prisoners said that the English had not marched away but were at their posts. Burgoyne had indeed ordered back the troops sent toward Fort Edward and was eagerly awaiting the struggle, in which he would be at such an advantage that he had no doubt of success. No one had any authority to stop the movement across the creek as Gates was still a mile away and twelve or fifteen hundred men were soon on the other side of the stream. At this critical moment the fog suddenly lifted and the whole English army could be seen under arms and drawn up in order of battle. The park of English artillery was directly in front of the Americans and the main English force was massed on their left. The English at once opened a heavy fire and the Americans, under so unexpected an attack recoiled, broke and retreated across the creek in haste. Wilkinson now thought of the other Americans who had crossed to the westward above the mill. The standing orders were that in case of an attack at any point, Americans were to fall on the enemy at all quarters. The officers of these men would certainly take the firing

near the river's edge for such an attack and must march upon the English only to be captured or destroyed. He hastened to follow them and found that they had advanced toward the strongest part of the English position upon the crown of a hill west of the river and were already within two hundred yards of it. Wilkinson rode up to General Learned who was now in command at this point and told him that he must retreat.

"Have you orders?" demanded the officer.

Wilkinson said that he had not as there was not time to go in search of General Gates.

"Our brothers are engaged on the right" said General Learned "and the standing order is to attack."

"Our troops on the right have retired and the fire you hear is from the enemy," replied Wilkinson. "Although I have no orders for your retreat" he added, "I pledge my life that the general will approve."

It was decided to retire and the Americans had no sooner faced about than the English fired upon them killing several before they were hidden by the neighboring woods. It was a bitter disappointment to Burgoyne to see the Americans retreat. He expected this day to have retrieved all his misfortunes for he would have had the Americans at the sort of disadvantage for which he had so long sought in vain and would have been able to have used to advantage the cumbersome park of artillery he had trundled through the wilderness to no purpose.

THE CANNONADE.

The English proposed as a last resort to abandon baggage and artillery and beat a hasty retreat up the west side of the river. But before this movement was begun scouts arrived with news that Fort Edward was already in possession of the Americans. All hope was now at an end for the English army. American troops lay south, east and west of it, while to the northward the crossing places in the river at Fort Edward and Glens Falls were disputed by bodies of men.

An incessant cannonade was opened upon the English camp. The dreaded sharpshooters also climbed trees the better to pick off men and horses for the latter were now in a starving condition and often escaped from the ditches which afforded them shelter to the tempting green meadow near old Fort Hardy only to fall speedy victims to rifle and cannon balls. Provisions were well nigh exhausted and in the confusion and danger of the cannonade those that were left were not always distributed.

After her first night in the rain on the straw, Madame de Riedessel took refuge in a farm house somewhat north of the English army. As she rode to this house in her calash she was aimed at by five or six men from the other side of the river. She threw her children down and herself on top of them to protect them from the rifle balls, which broke the arm of a wounded English soldier, who stood behind them. Soon after she had taken refuge in the house together with other women and the wounded, the building was cannonaded. Having seen so many

enter it the Americans believed it to be headquarters. The cannonade obliged the inmates to take refuge in the cellar. The next morning when the cannonade had taken for the time a different direction the inhabitants of the cellar left it that it might be cleaned. There was a rush for it again when firing began afresh and many took refuge there under a pretense of being ill who proved afterwards to be well enough. Eleven cannon balls went through the house at this time, one of them taking off the second leg of a poor man who was about to have the first amputated. It was about this time that a hasty retreat up the western bank of the river to Fort Edward was thought of. General de Riedesel had a horse in readiness for his wife's flight and some wounded officers who occupied the cellar swore that each would take one of the children on his horse in the rush for escape. All the officers' wives who had made the campaign with the baroness had had their husbands either killed or wounded and she trembled hourly for the Baron and wondered if she could be the only one to have the happiness to escape such a sorrow. Riedesel thought of sending her to the American lines for safety but she could not bear to be separated from him and often crept at night up the cellar stairs to assure herself that the English army had not marched away and left her behind. When she saw the soldiers near their watch fires she was reassured. Her cook, who was a great rascal and often during the campaign had forded streams and stolen sheep and fowls from American farmers for which he charged his master as though he had

paid for them, still supplied the Baroness with food but drink was lacking. The inmates of the cellar as well as the whole of the English army suffered for water for the Americans fired upon every one who approached the river. A soldier's wife was at length found who brought water to the sufferers in the cellar. The Americans respected her sex and did not fire upon her when she came to the water's edge. After the surrender her apron was filled with gold coins as a reward for her services. A woman in another part of the encampment had a sadder fate, for she was killed by an American sentinel while getting water at a little brook near Fish Creek because she did not answer his challenge. A cannon ball is said to have rolled across the table at which Burgoyne and his officers sat deliberating. According to another account it carried away a leg of mutton off of which they were about to dine.

THE SURRENDER.

On the thirteenth of October Burgoyne called a council of his officers at which it was decided that a surrender was the only thing left for the English army. The next day he opened negotiations with Gates. A truce was agreed upon and the cannonade ceased to the great relief of the inmates of the cellar. Gates demanded an unconditional surrender. Burgoyne in his playwright's style made answer that rather than this his troops would "rush on the enemy determined to take no quarter." In truth as he very well knew the men had got the capitulation in their heads by this time and disheartened and harrassed as they were would hardly have taken it

kindly to be asked to risk their lives again in a losing cause.

It was finally agreed that the English army should surrender on condition of being allowed to return to England with the promise of not again taking arms in America during the war. Burgoyne saved his pride a little by calling this a convention rather than a capitulation. Gates would not have granted such liberal terms to Burgoyne who was wholly in his power, had he not heard of the ascent of the Hudson by Sir Henry Clinton, news which must have seemed very formidable and alarming to him.

The terms of the surrender were already agreed upon by the officers who acted for the two generals and lacked only a formal signature when a spy got through to Burgoyne with the news of Clinton's move up the Hudson coupled with the false rumor that the general had already reached Albany. These tidings threw Burgoyne into indecision again. He wished that he had made no agreement with Gates. He called his officers together to determine whether he were bound in honor to stand by what had already been done. The majority of them thought that he was, but Burgoyne, to gain time and an excuse for breaking off the negotiations, accused Gates in a letter of having despatched a part of his army to Albany against Clinton. Gates had in fact sent some regiments of militia southward for this purpose on the day before the negotiations were opened between him and Burgoyne. He could however say in answer to Burgoyne that he had just been reinforced and that his army numbered many more than

that of the English general. Early on the morning of the seventeenth of October he drew up his troops in order of battle and sent word to Burgoyne that he proposed at once to attack him if he did not stand by his word. Burgoyne then hastened to sign the articles of capitulation, known as the Convention of Saratoga.

At eleven o'clock on the same morning, Burgoyne, in full court dress, attended by his aids, one of whom was a lord and the other a young gentleman who became in after life an earl and followed by the generals Phillips and Riedesel, rode to the head of the American camp where he was met by General Gates in a plain blue frock coat. The two generals approached to within sword's length of each other and when they had been introduced by the attending American officer, Burgoyne said:

"The fortune of war, General Gates, has made me your prisoner."

"I shall always be ready to bear testimony," Gates replied, "that it has not been through any fault of your excellency."

At eleven o'clock on the same morning the English troops marched to the meadow near old Fort Hardy and oppressed with the stench of dead horses made short work of laying down their arms. With a delicacy appreciated by the English officers the troops of the American army were kept out of sight during this mortifying scene. The English soldiers next crossed the creek and marched through the double ranks of the American army. The American flag had recently been adopted and its earliest use is

said to have been at Saratoga when it was borne before the conquered army. Yankee Doodle also seems first to have been played here as a national tune and the English soldiers were not a little mortified to make their first steps as prisoners to time with the mocking gaiety of the homely ditty, which reminded them that their conquerers were the very Yankees they had so despised at the opening of the summer.

As the English troops passed the combined log hut and cave dug by some settler in a bank that served the purpose of American headquarters, Gates and Burgoyne stepped out and the usual ceremony was observed, the English general presenting his sword to the American and the latter returning it with a bow. During this time when the eyes of all in the conquering army were on the captive troops the Americans showed not the least sign of exultation over a fallen enemy. Their faces expressed rather "pity and mute astonishment." It was observed that the American soldiers wore no uniform being dressed in their common clothes while the officers' uniforms varied greatly and were evidently home made. The Americans, however, commanded respect by their attitude which was "erect and soldierly" and as one of their prisoners said, they were so "slender, fine-looking and sinewy that it was pleasant to look at them."

The Baroness de Riedesel followed the fallen army into the American camp with many forbodings. The sight of a mother and her little children in captivity aroused however only compassion in the

hearts of the honest American soldiers and the lady could not but see in the faces of all their kindly feelings toward her. General Schuyler as he helped the little family to alight from the calash kissed the children and with tears in his eyes led them to his tent where he regaled them and their mother with smoked tongues, beefsteak, potatoes and fresh butter and bread. Schuyler insisted upon entertaining this lady and her children at Albany. With his usual delicacy he promised to direct Burgoyne to a comfortable lodging in this town which proved also to be his own handsome mansion. Burgoyne on first being introduced to Schuyler apologized for having burned his Saratoga house and Schuyler at once set him at ease by begging him to think no more of it since the rules of war justified its destruction.

Schuyler has been always regarded as more than any other the real hero of Burgoyne's campaign, having borne the brunt of its difficulties and accepted the mortification of unjust suspicion with patient patriotism. Gates afterwards lost the name he gained at Saratoga in the battle of Camden, where he is said to have fled with a retreating portion of his troops after saying that he would "bring the rascals back." Burgoyne returned to England to be cast aside by minister and king. They chose that he should bear the blame of failure rather than that their own negligence and unwisdom should be revealed. Burgoyne was not the man to endure such treatment patiently and defended himself vigorously. In doing justice to himself and his

army he testified to the courage, resolution and determination of the Americans.

The American Congress very unjustly kept Burgoyne's army on various pretexts captive that it might not by being returned to England enable other troops to be sent in its place to America. The Baroness de Riedesel counted herself happy in being able to share her husband's captivity and did not regret the hardships she had endured at Saratoga. Major Acland recovered sufficiently from his wounds to be able to return to England but died soon afterward. The romantic tale long believed in America that Lady Harriet Acland afterwards married the chaplain who accompanied her on her night ride down the Hudson to the American army is not true. The faithful lady lived for many years a widow and did nothing more uncommon than to erect a monument to the American maid who had accompanied her through the trials of Burgoyne's campaign and afterwards served her for many years.

RESULTS OF THE SARATOGA CAPITULATION.

The second battle of Saratoga has been ranked as one of fifteen decisive battles in the world's history, battles which turned events from the course which they otherwise have followed. The first of these decisive battles was Marathon, the last Waterloo; Saratoga was the thirteenth. As a result of this victory the reputation of the young nation at once rose high in all the civilized countries of the world. Before the capture of Burgoyne's army the colonies sought in vain for the open aid of France, whose interests and pride led her to wish for the

humbling of England, but who feared that the united American colonies could not long withstand the arms of the mother country and hesitated to join a losing cause. The complete capture of a whole English army at Saratoga by a body of Americans without any outside aid reassured France and she at once plunged into war with England. Had it not been for the European war which ensued the independence of the United States could not have been gained.

Burgoyne's was the sole English army which during the Revolution ventured far from sustaining fleets, only to find itself cut off from supplies and surrounded by overpowering numbers of farmer soldiers intent on the defense of their homes. No other English army again tried the experiment. Burgoyne dragged with him a fine park of brass cannon to dislodge the Americans from the breastworks these experienced woodsmen made so handily out of surrounding trees. The Earl of Balcarras afterwards remarked that the Americans never defended their breastworks during this campaign. The members of the English House of Commons, who were examining him, were surprised that he should say this when he wished to insist on American prowess, but the Earl added dryly that the reason why the Americans never defended their works was that they always marched out of them to attack the English.

The results of the struggle in the valley of the upper Hudson made the name of Saratoga famous the world over. After this, as a French traveler re-

marked, for the man who loved Americans it was no bad thing to be able to say, "I have seen Saratoga." The name clung chiefly around the place of Burgoyne's surrender until the world-wide fame of the watering place connected it more in men's minds with the famous springs than with the scene of a struggle between the two English speaking nations for supremacy. In name and in situation the two spots are linked together in the world's history. He who visits the springs cannot fail to find a fresh interest in this region from the knowledge of its historical importance.

Since the Revolution, from Washington down, distinguished visitors without number have sought the Saratoga battle ground and the scene of the surrender to trace the movements of the two armies, movements the success or failure of which were to decide the fate of a great nation.

SARATOGA SPRINGS.

At the close of the war of the Revolution, in 1783, a solitary settler again sought the neighborhood of High Rock Spring. He was the son of the Arnold who had lived here before the war. The same year General Schuyler, ever a pioneer in this region, cut a road from the old village of Saratoga to the spring and built here a rude frame house probably the first summer cottage in America. A few hardy visitors began to appear. The first of these were Washington, Governor Clinton and Alexander Hamilton who lost their way in seeking for the spring. A settler named Tom Connor who had before directed them when applied to a second time answered:

“I tell you, turn back, take the first right-hand path into the woods and then stick to it—any darned fool would know the way.”

He was afterwards greatly mortified to find that the man whom he had answered in this way was General Washington.

When Elkanah Watson visited the spring in 1790, he found here about a dozen people of respectability, living at the one wretched little tavern in the wilderness kept by Arnold. They drank the exhilarating water of High Rock Spring and bathed in an open log hut hard by, rolling off of a bench into a trough which received the spring water. This same year a Vermonter named Risley bought the original cabin of Schouten and opened in it a rival tavern to that of Arnold, which was probably not less wretched in its accommodations.

August, 1792, found Governor John Taylor Gilman of New Hampshire, a visitor at Saratoga Springs. While hunting in the neighborhood he discovered a jet of water spouting from the rocky bank of the stream just below a little waterfall. He tasted it and finding it to be mineral water, returned to the little hamlet near High Rock Spring to announce his discovery. The handful of people living there at once visited the new spring which was named the Congress, as Governor Gilman had been a member of the Continental Congress.

In 1800 Gideon Putnam bought an acre of ground on the present site of the Grand Union and clearing it of its pine forests built the first of Saratoga's great hotels. Congress Hall followed in 1815 and

the United States in 1824, each recording in its name the patriotic spirit of the day. By this time the Hamilton, Columbia, Flat Rock, Monroe, President, and Red Springs had been discovered.

From the frontier hamlet in the woods Saratoga suddenly came to be the great watering place of the country, a gay and fashionable resort. Crowds of people from the northern states congregated here each summer and southern families from as far as New Orleans made the voyage to New York and proceeded north by water and stage to spend the season at the now famous resort. No distinguished visitor to America from the ex-king Joseph Bonaparte to Harriet Martineau failed to visit the new world watering place, already a village of hotels, clustering between its two sets of springs, one to the north and the other to the south.

The situation of Saratoga is remarkable for the salubrity of the air, for it lies at the very gateway to the Adirondacks from whence its waters spring. Accessible to it is the fine scenery of Lake George and Lake Champlain and within easy driving distance is the battle ground which will render the name of Saratoga famous in history to all time.

THE PERILS OF TRAVEL ON LAKE CHAMPLAIN IN 1807.

In November, 1807, an Englishman named John Lambert set out to visit the United States upon the only inland route of that day by way of Lake Champlain. He traveled from Montreal to the village of St. Johns. After waiting two days at this place the vessel in which he had engaged passage sailed in the

night without him, a favorable wind having at that time sprung up. He was forced to spend three days more in a very indifferent tavern with no amusement but reading the one book of the house known as the Independent Wig. At length a small sloop from Burlington landed at the town. She was at once engaged by Lambert and three merchants also waiting to get passage to Whitehall. The Dolphin, the sloop in which these four gentlemen embarked, was a wretched little vessel which had formerly been a regular trader but was laid by at Burlington, where she was bought by four men for one hundred dollars, the money to be returned if she were seized by government officers as unseaworthy. Two of the owners, one as captain, the other as crew, had brought her to St. Johns with a cargo of butter and cheese. Being offered a good price to take the four gentlemen to Whitehall and taking on board a cargo of some barrels of potash and kegs of butter as well as two other passengers bound for the neighborhood of Cumberland Head, they set sail although they knew nothing of the navigation of the lake and were no sailors. The vessel was but a crazy, leaky affair, there was no boat in which to take refuge in case she sank, the sails were ragged, the pumps choked or broken and the passengers were obliged to fall to work and bale water from under the cabin every two hours.

The weather being fine they were troubled with no fears but amused themselves with those of the captain who was so little used to sailing that he kept a good hold on the peak halyards, and, when-

ever a puff of wind arose, hastily lowered the peak, crying.

“What an awful wind. It blows nation stout.”

The weather was frosty and the cabin passengers were obliged to make a fire in an old pitch pot to warm themselves. They dined off of some cold boiled meat with which they had provided themselves and potatoes cooked in the ship's sole utensil, an old iron tea kettle. When night came some of the passengers wrapped themselves in overcoats and buffalo robes and slept in the cabin; others were forced to spend the night on deck as there were not berths for all. The moon luckily shown and guided the unskilful seamen away from rocks.

At midnight the Dolphin reached Cumberland Head where the captain ran her on the rocks to save the trouble of anchoring her. The passengers came on deck and spent an hour hailing a tavern on shore in hopes of a boat coming off to them. A man finally put off with a canoe, half full of water. A tin pail was handed down to him but his boat was so leaky as to fill almost as fast as it was emptied. The captain and one of the passengers finally got into the crazy craft which promptly upset with them. The men on board the Dolphin were casting about to find a rope to throw to the men floundering in the water when they saw that they had gained their feet and were making for the shore up to their necks in water. The tin pail was lost with the capsizing of the canoe and the tea kettle had now to do duty as a bailing utensil. The gentleman who had gone ashore in hopes of getting something hot at the

tavern had but a cold reception there being refused admittance. He returned in ten minutes to the sloop with his wet clothes frozen upon him. The captain was in a similar plight when he also returned after reporting at the custom house. It now took all hands two hours to get the sloop off the rocks.

At four o'clock in the morning the vessel arrived opposite a small bay in the township of Shelburne and here passengers and crew went ashore and walked into a farm house where the door stood on a latch. The voyagers dried and warmed themselves before a good fire and rejoiced over a bountiful "American breakfast" of beefsteak, fried pork, eggs, apple pie, pickles, cheese, cider and milk toast. The farmer asked but a York shilling for this meal but was paid the usual tavern price. He was an ingenious man and had contrived a churn on which one of his boys could ride as on a rocking horse while he churned.

The travelers sailed again at eight in the morning admiring Lake Champlain, beautifully diversified with islands, the numerous farms and pleasant houses near the water's edge, the bold and elevated portions of the shore to be seen here and there and the fine distant view of the Green Mountains. But the leaks in the vessel were a great drawback and the water constantly gained upon them if they stopped to gaze at the scenery. Lambert finally went below among the kegs of butter and barrels of potash with some oakum and a calking iron. After some search he found the principal leak and stopped

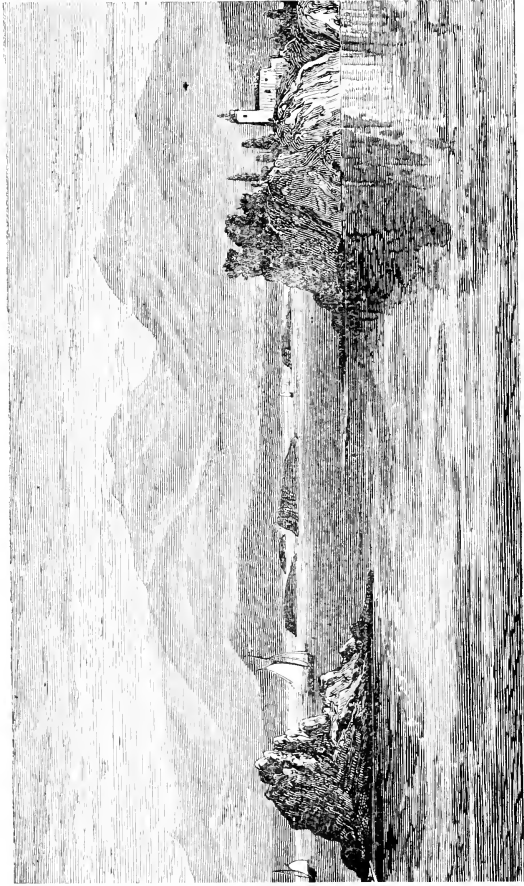
it being careful not to hammer hard lest his iron should go completely through the rotten wood of the ship's hull. This done the passengers were not much troubled with the work of bailing and the old tea kettle had a rest.

Having entered the narrow portion of the lake below Crown Point the Dolphin ran aground and it became necessary to call to her assistance a man from the shore into whose scow some barrels of potash were put to lighten the vessel in order that she might float off of the shoal. When she had been reloaded with the potash the passengers hired the man of the scow to accompany the vessel as a pilot. All this detained the Dolphin until nearly dark. The wind began to blow from the northeast and the vessel was compelled to crash through shell ice. The one man of her crew, known as David, began to cry out at this that the ice would cut her bows in two and sink her, putting the passengers in heart by telling them how a sloop had lately been sunk in these waters in this way and several people drowned.

The Dolphin did not venture into the narrow southern arm of Lake Champlain leading to Whitehall until the the next morning when she passed "Old Ti" as David called Ticonderoga and sailed between two piles which had stood in the channel since the time when the Americans had had a floating bridge between this fort and that of Mount Independence. The intricacies of the channel beyond Ticonderoga alarmed the passengers whose new pilot proved to be an uncertain guide and now confessed that it was long since he had been that way.

The wind still blew hard with sudden flaws from the mountains which several times very nearly upset the ship. Once the boom made an unexpected sweep across the deck, knocking down two of the passengers and carrying away the hat of one. Lambert found the scenery sublime though forbidding at this season of the year. At three miles above Whitehall the sloop was brought to a complete stop by ice in the channel. She ran some hundreds of yards through it but her bows wearing badly the passengers feared her rotten hull would not long stand the cutting of the ice. She was run ashore, tied to a tree and with their baggage on their backs her passengers clambered through the forests to Whitehall.

Lambert returned to Canada the following spring taking a stage from Boston to Burlington. Travelers from Boston to Burlington at this time had some difficulty in finding their way for finger boards frequently hung parallel with the post to which they were attached and mile posts often lay on the ground. One traveler once got out of his vehicle to read one of the reclining milestones and found written beneath its illegible inscription, "No reliance can be placed on the milestones all the way to Burlington for they lie, every one of them." The town of Burlington, which thirty years before had been represented by one log hut in the woods now contained twenty-five hundred inhabitants, brick houses and a college. Trade with Canada had been the making of this town. The inhabitants of this region groaned sadly at this time under the embargo act which for the time completely cut off their business.



MOUNTAIN VIEW, FROM BURLINGTON BAY.

“It’s tarnation provoking,” said one rustic, “that we can’t swop goods with the Canadians. What has England or France to do with Lake Champlain? They don’t search our vessels and take our seamen there.”

Another declared his determination to “wagon” his ashes as he called potash to Canada through by-roads “in spite of their O-grab-me laws.”

Lambert proceeded by land from Burlington to St. Albans, riding in the mail wagon, a springless country cart furnished with chairs for seats. He was unmercifully shaken over the rudest of forest roads. He was obliged to wait at a small house in St. Albans Bay for the wind to subside before crossing the flooded waters to where a ferry boat could be obtained being obliged to make this first part of the trip in a miserable canoe scarcely safe in fine weather. The ferry boat proved to be a flat bot-tomed scow which with four stout rowers reached in an hour a narrow portion of North Hero Island where the boat was pulled across the land and being launched again crossed Lake Champlain and ascended the Chazy River to the village of the same name, after a row of twenty miles. From here Lambert proceeded to Canada with an agreeable memory of his last view of Lake Champlain, its tree covered islands, its distant mountains and its noble stretches of placid water.

It was but shortly after this and not long after the invention of the steamboat that one was placed on Lake Champlain, and the old travel by sloops and scow ferry boats came for ever to an end. Many a

man took his first steamboat trip on Lake Champlain and thought it "the most delightful kind of conveyance" he had ever tried. But there were not wanting old lady passengers who annoyed such gentlemen with anxious inquiries as to whether they thought "all was safe," wished to know "how hot they kept the furnace" and timorously forecast an accident at which passengers would have only a choice between death by "hot water on deck or cold water below."

THE BATTLE OF PLATTSBURGH.

A final attempt to invade New York by way of the Champlain Valley was made in the last war with England. Had this expedition succeeded the havoc must have been great for this now populous region including the summer resort of Saratoga must have fallen a prey to all the ruin and horrors of an invasion. Four years before war broke out the government recognizing the danger sought to secure this important "doorway of the country" as the Indians had called Lake Champlain by building two gunboats upon it. In 1813 two armed sloops, the Eagle and the Growler, were launched. These vessels afterwards fell victims to a body of English troops who attacked them with musketry in a narrow part of the lake. The Eagle sank from the opening of her seams caused by the discharge of her own guns while the Growler unable to make a retreat because of the high wind, struck.

That a more efficient defense might be made, a young naval officer, Captain Thomas McDonough, who fought with Decatur at Tripoli, was now sent

by the United States government to build and having built to command a fleet on Lake Champlain. McDonough had so few men to assist him that he labored with his own hands at the work of ship building. While he was thus busy in 1813 the English with the two captured American sloops and some gunboats and batteaux made a descent upon Plattsburgh destroyed some American stores at this place and captured trading vessels plying the lake.

The following year, 1814, an English army of about fourteen thousand men under Sir George Prevost, assembled at Montreal for the invasion of northern New York by way of the Champlain Valley. The army was to advance southward along the western shore of the lake, sustained by an English fleet strong enough to command these waters. The English and Americans worked hard during the early part of the summer to add to their squadrons. McDonough launched his last vessel about the middle of August, the English theirs on the twenty-fifth of the same month. McDonough was ready to set sail a few days before the English. He advanced at once to Cumberland Bay where the Americans proposed to make a stand against the invaders. Fifteen hundred militia had gathered near the town of Plattsburgh for this purpose while McDonough's squadron rode the waters of the bay.

The English land force advanced against Plattsburgh on the sixth of September, attacked as they neared the town by American militiamen from behind fences and stone walls. They pushed on after some skirmishing as far as the north side of the

Saranac but were repulsed by the Americans when they attempted to cross the stream. They then prepared to lay a regular siege to the American forts on the south side of the Saranac and waited for the English fleet to come to their aid. The Americans galled them meanwhile with incessant skirmishing. The English are said to have lost on land over a thousand men in killed, wounded and prisoners near Plattsburgh.

An American guard boat was constantly on the watch in the main lake for the English squadron. Soon after sunrise on the eleventh of September the boat pulled in to Cumberland Bay with the news that the enemy's ships were approaching. McDonough at once ordered his vessels cleared for action. So completely was the deck of the Saratoga swept of encumbrances that some hen coops were even thrown overboard and the chickens allowed to wander about the ship.

The upper sails of the English vessels soon hove in sight over Cumberland Head. The English squadron consisted of a large ship, the *Confiance*, a brig, the *Linnet*, and two sloops, the *Chubb* and the *Finch*. The Americans had also four vessels, the *Saratoga*, a ship, the *Eagle* a brig, a schooner called the *Ticonderoga* and a sloop named the *Preble*. The Americans had ten gunboats, the English twelve; the English squadron carried more and larger cannon than the American and was manned with a greater number of men. The English flagship, the *Confiance*, was the largest ever seen in these waters, having the gun deck and the armament of a heavy

frigate. She was also provided with a furnace for heating shot for the purpose of setting the American vessels on fire. The Americans had eighty-five guns and eight hundred men, the English ninety-five guns and one thousand men.

McDonough anchored his four vessels in a line across Cumberland Bay with their sides toward the enemy. He threw out kedge anchors on either side of his flagship, the *Saratoga*, to enable her to be warped around. Back of his vessels and commanding the spaces between them he anchored the gunboats.

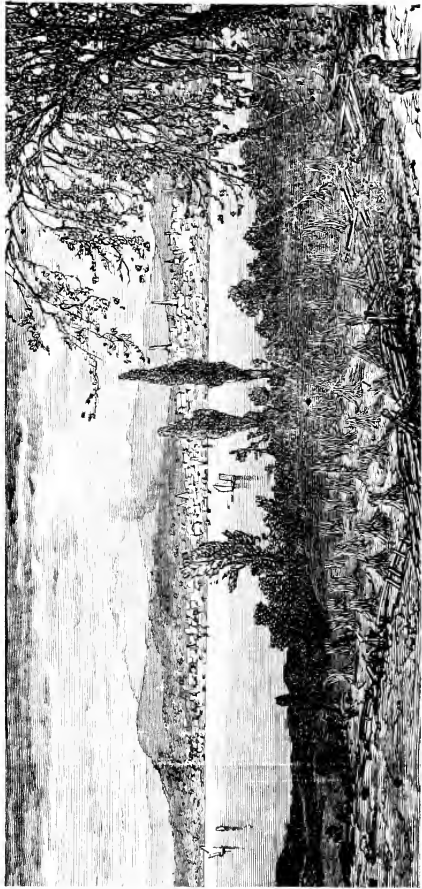
The English army on land hailed the appearance of the English fleet with joyous shouts. The English vessels formed in line south of Cumberland Head and then moved in toward the American line. The English vessels came bows on. The cannon of the American vessels were all loaded and a solemn silence preceded the opening of the battle. As the enemy's ships approached the *Eagle* suddenly fired a broadside from her four long eighteen-pound cannon. Startled by this noise a young game rooster on the *Saratoga* flew upon a gun slide, flapped his wings and crowed. He seemed to be bidding the enemy defiance and the crew of the ship gave three ringing cheers and went into battle with heightened spirits.

The English gunboats opened fire but McDonough still withheld the order to the waiting gunners on the *Saratoga*. He was watching the shots of the *Eagle* and saw that they fell short of the enemy. At length when they took effect he sighted a gun him-

self and a cannonade was opened all along the American line. The effect was terrible on the English vessels as they slowly approached bows on. They came on steadily however for Captain Downie, the English commander, felt sure of success if he could but gain a position near enough to the American vessels to bring his superior cannon to bear upon them with the best effect. At length the American fire could no longer be born and the English squadron anchored about a quarter of a mile short of the American fleet. The English brig, the *Linnet*, as she came around fired a broadside into the *Saratoga* but the *Confiance* held her fire until she was anchored when her whole side seemed for a moment a sheet of flame as she sent a broadside into the *Saratoga* with terrible effect. The shock over, Captain McDonough looked about him to see half of his crew prostrate on the deck. Almost a fifth of them, about forty men, had been killed or wounded, the others were only knocked down by the force of the blow. The dead so cumbered the deck that it was found necessary to unfasten the hatches and pass them below.

In a few minutes the *Saratoga* had recovered from the shock and returned the fire. The battle went steadily on but the force of the broadsides gradually decreased as gun after gun became injured. The English sloop, *Chubb*, was soon disabled by a broadside from an American brig, the *Eagle*, and drifted down between the two squadrons until forced by a shot from the *Saratoga* to surrender. She was towed in to Plattsburgh by a boat's crew in command





PLATYBURGH, FROM AMBERLAND POINT.

of a young midshipman. Nearly half of the crew of this vessel was found to be killed or wounded. A half an hour later the English sloop Finch was driven out of line by the Ticonderoga and drifted upon a shoal at Crab Island where a shot or two from an American battery forced her to strike and she was taken possession of by invalids from the American hospital.

The English gunboats meanwhile struggled desperately with the American sloop Preble and finally forced her to fall back into the bay where she was of no more service. These smaller craft now fell upon the American schooner Ticonderoga. Her captain, Lieutenant Cassin, walked the taffrail amidst a hail of grape and cannister shot and caused her cannon to be loaded with bags of musket balls. Several times the crews of the English gunboats attempted to board the Ticonderoga. The loss of this vessel would have meant the exposure of the rear of the American line and the defeat of the squadron, but the spirited commander beat off the boarding parties with such showers of missiles as they could not endure and in the end drove the English gunboats back to a respectful distance.

At the other end of the American line the Eagle was forced to bear the broadsides of the Linnet as well as part of the fire of the Confiance at a time when she was disabled by losing the hawsers attached to her cables intended to draw her around to where she could bring her guns to bear upon the enemy. The captain of the Eagle finally cut her cable, ran down behind the American line and

anchored between but in the rear of the Ticonderoga and Saratoga now the only ships remaining in line. With his other broadside turned toward the enemy he was able to use his fresh guns. The Saratoga, however, was exposed by this movement to the full fire of both the Linnet and the Confiance, the Linnet raking her bows.

The guns of the Saratoga were now almost silenced on the side toward the enemy. Some had been injured by cannon shot, others dismantled and still others had been ruined by overcharges due to the eagerness of the American gunners to do execution. Twice the ship had been set on fire by hot shot from the furnace of the Confiance. At length the Saratoga's last gun flew off of its carriage and down the main hatchway of the vessel. The Saratoga must either strike or turn completely around and bring a fresh broadside to bear on the enemy. By pulling on the hawsers attached to kedge or warping anchors the ship was slowly brought half way around and hung in this position exposed to a raking broadside from the Linnet. It was only by a great effort that she was drawn somewhat further around until some of her aftermost guns could be brought to play upon the Confiance. She could be moved no farther, there being no favoring wind to aid in the labor of warping. At this critical moment and when a little more delay would have lost the day the ship's master contrived to draw one of the ropes attached to a kedge anchor under the vessel's bow. The crew then pulled upon it and the Saratoga swung slowly around with her other side

toward the enemy. This bit of masterly seamanship won the day. The *Confiance* attempted to make the same maneuver but was only forced ahead. When she could no longer endure the fresh broadsides of the *Saratoga* and her guns were well nigh silenced she lowered her flag. The seamen of the *Saratoga* now pulled upon her hawser until they brought her broadside guns to bear upon the *Linnet* which struck fifteen minutes later. At this the gunboats which had been driven backward about a mile lowered their colors. Of sixteen English flags flying in Cumberland Bay that morning all were down. Not a mast was standing on either the captured English or the victorious American ships to which a sail could be attached and it was impossible to send any vessel to take possession of the English gunboats, which at first made off slowly as though doubting their liberty and then when the situation dawned upon their officers hastened to escape.

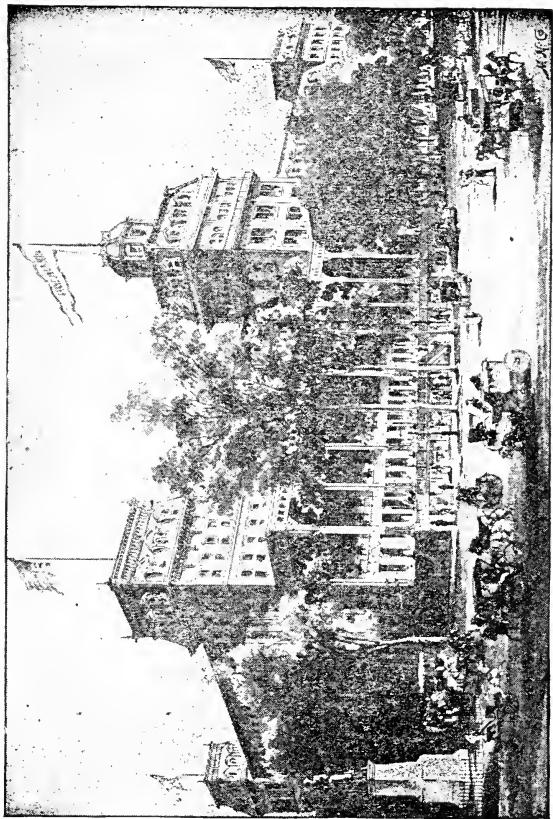
The American commander, McDonough, was twice knocked senseless during the action, once while he was aiming a favorite gun by the falling of a broken spar upon his back and again when a shot drove the captain of his gun in upon him and threw him upon the deck, covered with blood. Captain Downie, the English commodore, was killed during the action by the driving in of a cannon upon him, an American shot having struck the muzzle of the gun behind which he stood. The *Saratoga* received fifty-five round shot in her hull, and the *Confiance* one hundred and five. The English guns on this ship were not well aimed after the

first broadside which took so much effect on the Saratoga. They damaged the rigging of the Saratoga more than her crew and her hull. The Americans aimed with the same precision they often showed in land battles. The English admitted a loss of eighty-three killed and one hundred and ten wounded, though this did not include the killed and wounded on the gunboats. The Americans are said to have lost but fifty-two killed and fifty-eight wounded. Two American officers fell, one being completely cut in two by a cannon ball. It is a gruesome fact that one officer was knocked down by the flying head of a seaman.

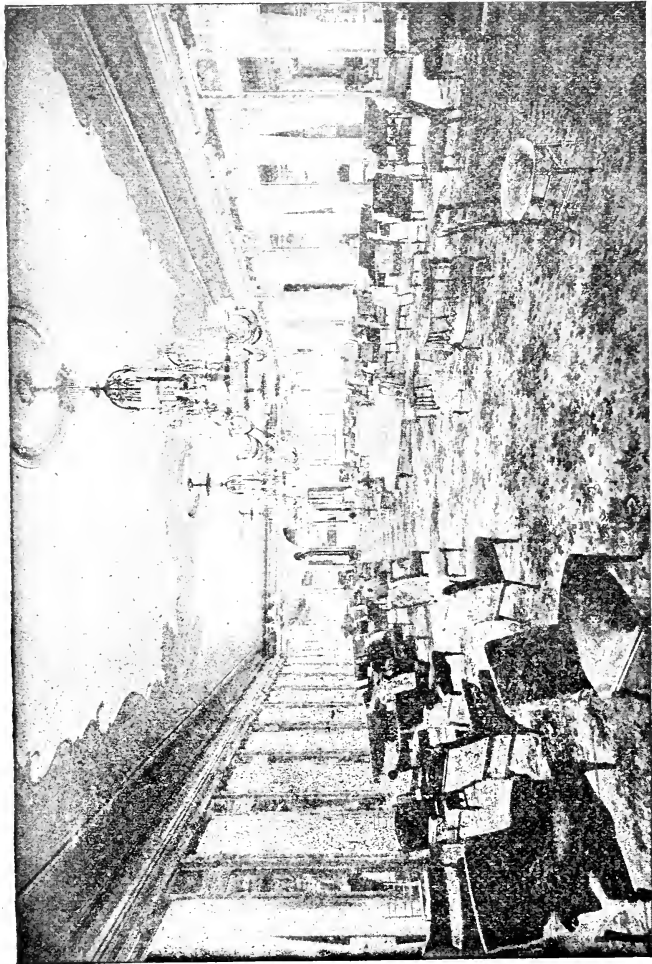
The American and English armies as well as numerous spectators watched the action from the shores of Cumberland Bay. The inhabitants of the country trembled with anxiety for the fate of the American squadron, the defeat of which meant all the horrors for them of an invasion. Cheers arose when one by one the English colors were lowered. Sir George Prevost had spent the hours of the battle in making confident preparations to lay siege to the Americans at Plattsburg. When, however, he found that the English fleet was defeated he beat a hasty retreat, leaving behind him many cannon and much stores.

Very old people living in the neighborhood of Lake George have told me how their parents and crowds of other people from the country around drove to Lake Champlain after the battle to see the shattered vessels of the English fleet, on the decks of which could still be seen the blood and hair of killed and wounded men.

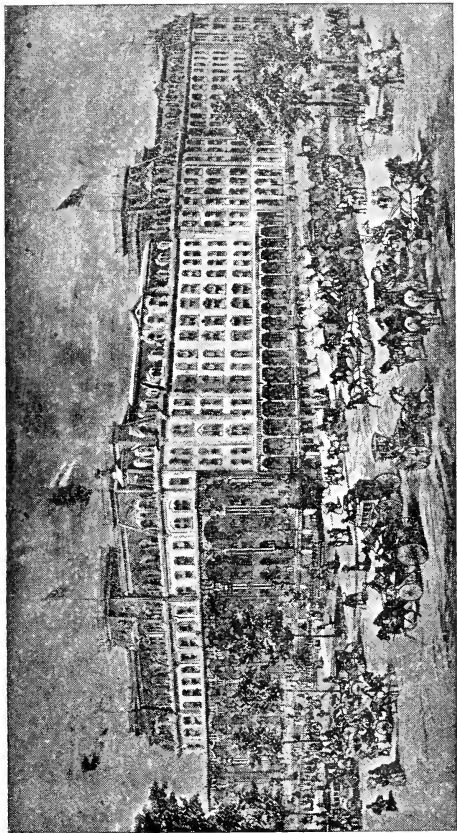
By the well fought battle of Plattsburgh the beautiful Champlain and Saratoga region was relieved from further invasion save that of the summer tourists who makes the northern campaign every summer, traversing this region in search of recreation and health. To such the delights of this land of rest and pleasure can not but be enhanced by a knowledge of the heroic struggles fought out upon this soil enriching it forever with historic associations.



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PARLOR OF THE GRAND UNION HOTEL, SARATOGA.



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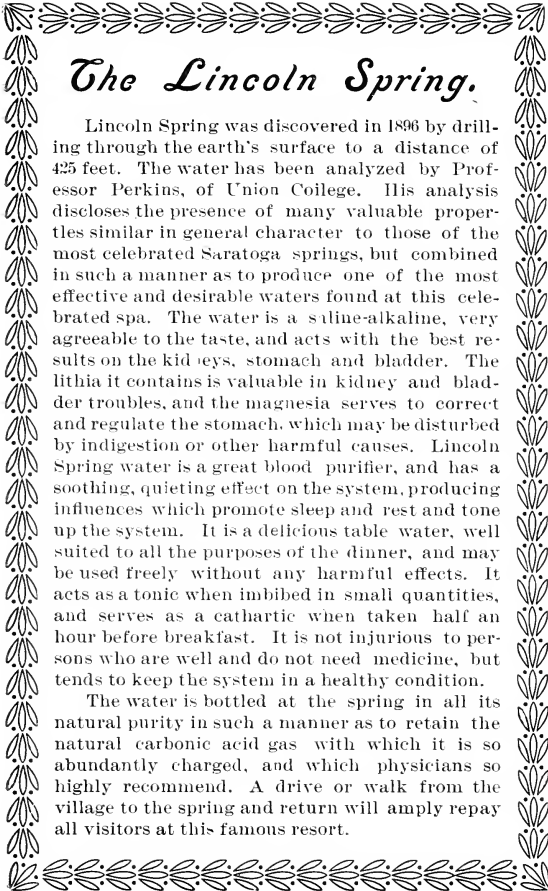
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Line from Montreal to New York.
Tourists Through Lake Cham-
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ALL TRAINS AND BOATS STOP.



The Lincoln Spring.

Lincoln Spring was discovered in 1896 by drilling through the earth's surface to a distance of 425 feet. The water has been analyzed by Professor Perkins, of Union College. His analysis discloses the presence of many valuable properties similar in general character to those of the most celebrated Saratoga springs, but combined in such a manner as to produce one of the most effective and desirable waters found at this celebrated spa. The water is a saline-alkaline, very agreeable to the taste, and acts with the best results on the kidneys, stomach and bladder. The lithia it contains is valuable in kidney and bladder troubles, and the magnesia serves to correct and regulate the stomach, which may be disturbed by indigestion or other harmful causes. Lincoln Spring water is a great blood purifier, and has a soothing, quieting effect on the system, producing influences which promote sleep and rest and tone up the system. It is a delicious table water, well suited to all the purposes of the dinner, and may be used freely without any harmful effects. It acts as a tonic when imbibed in small quantities, and serves as a cathartic when taken half an hour before breakfast. It is not injurious to persons who are well and do not need medicine, but tends to keep the system in a healthy condition.

The water is bottled at the spring in all its natural purity in such a manner as to retain the natural carbonic acid gas with which it is so abundantly charged, and which physicians so highly recommend. A drive or walk from the village to the spring and return will amply repay all visitors at this famous resort.

PAUL SMITH'S FOUQUET HOUSE

JAMES HANEY, Manager,

PLATTSBURGH, N. Y.

(Directly Opposite D. & H. R. R. Station)

This old established house has been for years the resting place for Tourists going through Lake Champlain, or into the Adirondacks. It is the Largest and Finest Hotel in Plattsburgh, Lighted Through-out with Electric Lights, and has all other modern improvements.

The Finest Dining Room in Northern New York.

AND THE ONLY HOTEL IN TOWN

Fitted and Located for the Summer Travel

Tourists going through Lake Champlain will find it to their advantage to

STOP OVER NIGHT AT THE FOUQUET

And have a good night's rest, the Fouquet House being only two minutes' walk from all Steamers on Lake Champlain. In rear of the House are the New Government Barracks. This Hotel is also the nearest to the Catholic Summer School.


The House has been Thoroughly Overhauled, Re-painted Inside and Out, and stands today one of the finest Hotels in the country.



CONGRESS SPRING



**A Saline Water,
Cathartic and Alterative,
Of High Medicinal Virtues.**



By its efficacy, purity, and acknowledged sanitary properties and the happy proportions of its various ALKALINE salts, the CONGRESS WATER stands UNRIVALLED, as attested by the great Mineral Water drinking public, who might have been seen the past season at Saratoga hurrying to slake their thirst at this HEALTHFUL FOUNTAIN.

While the water is now as strongly cathartic as at any period since its discovery—over one hundred years ago—it still retains its DELICIOUS FLAVOR AND SMOOTH CATHARTIC ACTION that has always been characteristic of this famous water.



It is carefully packed for shipment in cases of 4 and 2 dozen pints and 2 dozen quarts.

Analysis, Pamphlets, etc., at our offices.

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CONGRESS SPRING COMPANY,

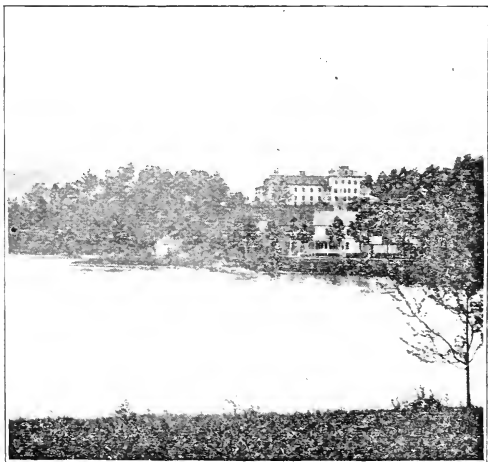
Saratoga Springs, N. Y.



Rogers Rock Hotel

ON LAKE GEORGE.

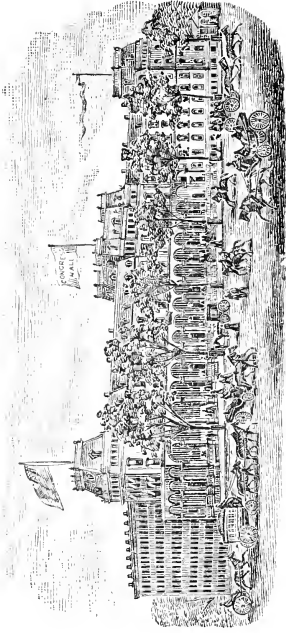
OPEN FROM JUNE TO NOVEMBER.



This hotel occupies a bold promontory a little to the north of Rogers' Slide, and accommodates 125 guests. It is the farthest north of any Lake George hotel, and is 110 feet above the water. Every window affords a lake view.

W. D. TREADWAY, Prop.

P. O. Address, Rogers' Rock, Essex Co., N. Y.



CONGRESS HALL.

Accommodates One Thousand Guests

Three Hundred Rooms, \$3.00 Per Day.

Three Hundred and Fifty Rooms, \$4.00 Per Day.

CLEMENT & COX, Proprietors,

SARATOGA, N. Y.

The Central House

- THIS commodious and thoroughly refitted house with modern improvements has accommodations for 100 people, and will be open to the public from June first until October first. The house is situated in the quiet and shady little village of Lake George, in the town of Caldwell, at the head of the famous and most beautiful of all the Adirondack lakes—Lake George—and is surrounded by scenes of historical interest pertaining to the days of colonial and Indian warfare. Running past the north end of the house is a short street leading down to the lake and Pine Point Park, called Amherst street in memory of General Amherst, who embarked at this point with 11,000 men and captured Fort Ticonderoga in 1759. The Central House has been practically rebuilt and newly furnished during the past year and is furnished with bathrooms and electric bells.

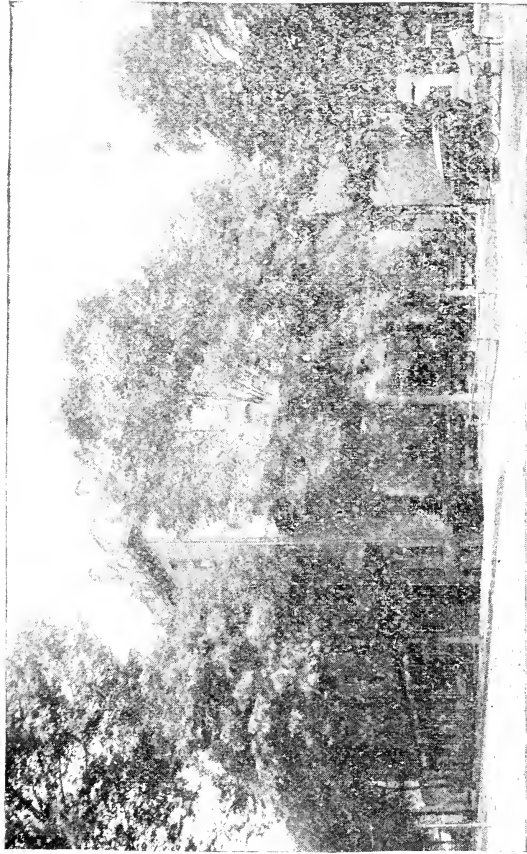
Arlington Hotel

- THE Arlington Hotel, situated a little south of the Central House, is open all the year round, and is popular with Commercial travelers. It is comparatively a new house, and contains many modern conveniences, including steam heat, making it a desirable place for people wishing to spend the autumn months at the Holy Lake. While Mr. Worden is proprietor of the two houses, he aims to make the management of each entirely distinct, affording guests a choice, as their tastes suggest.

RATES.

- CENTRAL HOUSE—\$2 per day; \$9 to \$12 per week.
ARLINGTON HOTEL—\$2 per day; \$7 to \$9 per week.
Special rates for families, and to people making prolonged stays.
For further information address the proprietor,

EDWIN J. WORDEN, Lake George, N. Y.



WORDEN'S HOTEL, Broadway, Corner Division Street, SARATOGA SPRINGS, N. Y.
Elevator. Steam Heat. Rates \$3.00 Per Day. Open Year Round

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PLATTSBURGH AND THE
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*Chazy Lake, Chateaugay Lake, Loon
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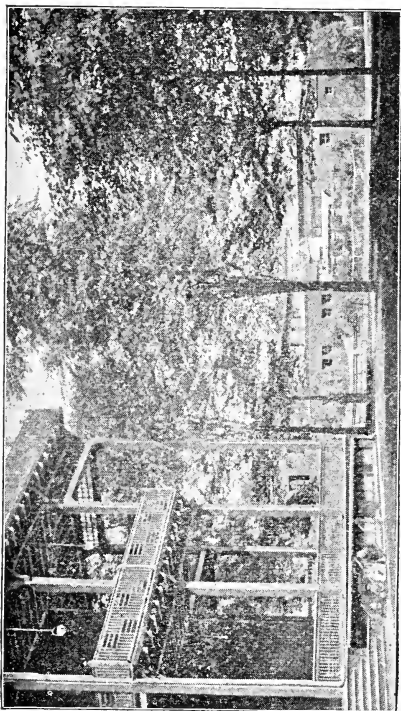
Wagner palace sleeping cars on all night trains, and
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NEW YORK AND PLATTSBURGH.

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THE WINDSOR HOTEL

Saratoga Springs. R. G. Smyth, Proprietor

Huestis House

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A First-Class Family
Hotel at Moderate Rates.
Open from May to No-
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Send for Book.

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W. B. HUESTIS,
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Forty Rooms.

Steam Heat.

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Champlain Transportation Co.,

Lake George Steamboat Company.

“The Gateway of the Country.”

Magnificent Sidewheel Steamers make double daily service through Lake Champlain and Lake George, passing some of the grandest scenery on this Continent.

Historic Ruins, sites of early land and naval battles, rugged shores, picturesque mountains, make a trip through these lakes one never to be forgotten.

Through service from May 30th to October 1st. Local service on Lake George by Steamer Mohican in May and October. Steamer Chateaugay on Lake Champlain from April to January. Excellent cuisine, attentive officers and clean boats are our special features.

The popular route between New York, Albany, Troy, Saratoga, Catholic Summer School, Plattsburgh, Adirondacks, White and Green Mountains, Ausable Chasm, Ottawa, Montreal, Thousand Islands and Quebec.

Close connections with all trains at terminal points. Tickets reading via, D. & H. R. R. accepted for passage on Lake Champlain.

Send for “A Summer Paradise” and Fine Map with Time Tables.

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BURLINGTON, VT., GEN'L MANAGER.

Prospect Mountain

2000 Feet Above Lake George.
The Grandest View in America.

Embracing the Adirondacks, Green, White and Catskill Mountains, the Berkshire Hills and 30 miles of Lake George.

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Otis Inclined Cable Railway

FROM THE VILLAGE OF CALDWELL,

MAKING THE ASCENT IN TEN MINUTES.

Cars leave the foot of the mountain every thirty minutes, from 9 A. M. to 7 P. M. Special trips at other hours on application to the superintendent.

Stages will be in waiting at the Delaware and Hudson R. R. station and steamboat landing to carry passengers to the foot of mountain.

Lunch and Refreshments at the Summit Casino.

**Grand Pavilion for Picnic Parties,
Bowling Alley, Electric Lights,
Beautiful Walks, Woods and Sunsets.**

Tickets may be purchased at Casino for dinners at the Lake House, including return trip to the top of mountain. These tickets will be sold at summit only.

**Special Entertainments for Moonlight Evenings. will be
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ROUND TRIP TICKETS, - - 50 CENTS.

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TAYLOR HOUSE AND 15 COTTAGES

On Schroon Lake, N. Y.

The Taylor House is surrounded by 4,000 native pines and commands a view of the lake and mountains for miles.

All Modern Improvements.

Milk, Cream and Vegetables

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C. A. TAYLOR & SON,

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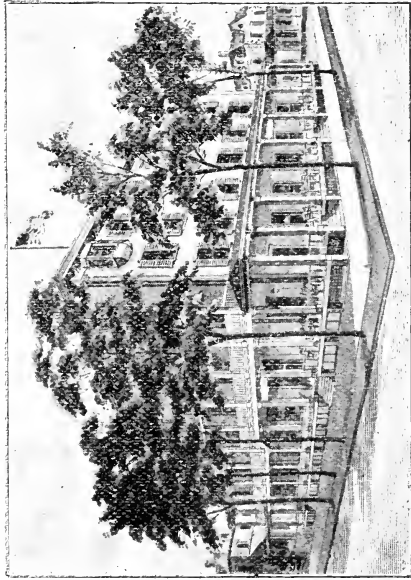
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THE COMMERCIAL.

\$2 PER DAY. OPEN ALL THE YEAR

JOHN J. WANDALL, Proprietor. Saratoga Springs, N. Y.

THE ADIRONDACK MOUNTAINS.

The heart of this wonderful region of mountains, lakes and streams is traversed by the Adirondack Division of the New York Central and Hudson River R. R. and to more fully inform the public regarding its beauties and easy means of access the Passenger department has just issued a book entitled "In the Adirondack Mountains," describing in detail each resort, and containing also a large map in colors, giving a list of hotels, camps, lakes, etc., together with their location on the map. It has also issued a large folder with map, entitled "The Adirondack Mountains and How to Reach Them," giving complete and comprehensive information regarding stage lines, steamers, hotels, etc.

A copy of the book will be sent to any address on receipt of two 2-cent stamps, or the folder for a 2-cent stamp by George H. Daniels, General Passenger Agent, Grand Central Station, New York.

AMERICA'S GREAT RESORTS.

Of course, you are thinking of going somewhere this summer, and while you have this subject in mind it will perhaps pay you to investigate the many hundreds of beautiful resorts located along the lines of the New York Central & Hudson River R. R. You cannot get a better list to choose from. The Adirondack Mountains, Saratoga, Lake George, Lake Champlain, the Berkshire or Litchfield Hills, the Catskill Mountains, Niagara Falls, the Thousand Islands, the Lake Region of Central New York and many others, equally as good, are briefly described in a neat folder issued by the Passenger Department of the New York Central, entitled "America's Great Resorts."

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CLIFF HAVEN, N. Y.



The site of this delightful resort adjoins the famous Hotel Champlain, at Bluff Point, on Lake Champlain. It is connected by an Electric Road with Plattsburgh. The grounds overlook the scene of the Battles of Plattsburgh and Valcour.

Its location is superb. Every portion of its property commands beautiful views of Lake Champlain, the Adirondacks and Green Mountains. Boarding accommodations are provided for about four hundred, exclusive of private cottages. The corporation owns five handsome furnished cottages, supplied with every modern convenience, which are leased to families for the season.

The Champlain Club owns a magnificent Club House. Its membership is made up of gentlemen residing in New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Montreal and other cities. The overflow at Cliff Haven finds pleasant accommodations in the hotels and private boarding houses at Plattsburgh, between which there is a ten-minute Electric Street Car Service. Cottage associations, made up of persons of congenial spirits, have been formed in various cities, for the purpose of establishing summer homes at Cliff Haven. Philadelphia, New York, Boston and Rochester have already erected handsome, commodious buildings. The New York Cottage has accommodations for sixty persons. The Philadelphia, Boston and Rochester about forty each.

Among the handsome private cottages may be mentioned those of Prof. Arthur H. Dundon, Vice-Principal of the New York Normal College, and Rev. Dr. Gabriel Healey, of New York. The session begins July 11th and ends August 28th. The Dining Hall will be open after June 26. Courses of lectures on topics of interest are continued through the session. Special lectures and courses will be given by eminent men. Saturdays and the afternoons of other days are devoted to rest and amusements. Golf, tennis, bowling, boating, fishing and excursions to Ausable Chasm, the Adirondacks, Montreal and other points of interest occupy the leisure hours of visitors. The Assembly is under the auspices of the Catholic Summer School of America, a corporation having a charter from the regents of the University. Members of all denominations are welcomed. For prospectus, rates for board and rental of cottages, address E. E. STEWART, Supt. Cliff Haven, Clinton Co., N. Y. For Prospectus of Champlain Club, address H. J. HEIDENIS, 348 West 55th. St., New York



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Beautifully Located at the head of Lake George and Unequaled for Comfort and Convenience. Directly opposite postoffice.

Fresh Vegetables every day from our own garden, and all the delicacies of the season. Mountain Spring Water throughout the house.

Three minutes' walk from the Delaware and Hudson depot and busses to all trains.

Transients \$2.00 per day. Board by the week \$7.00 to \$12.

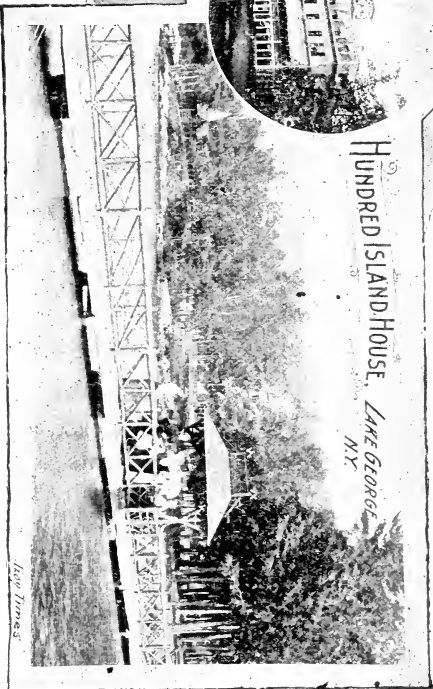


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J. H. CARPENTER, Proprietor.

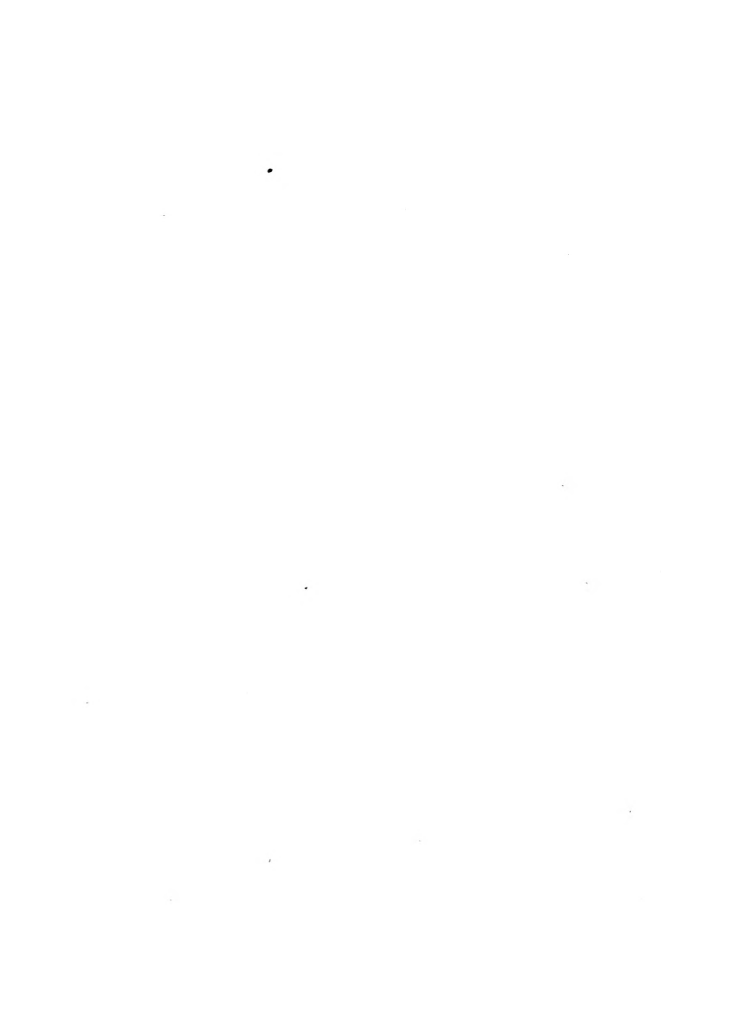


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